



Tumm: visit is catalyst for challenge to union

## Jail chiefs out to break grip of prison officers' union

By TONY DAVE

WITHIN the walls of Britain's largest top-security jail, a determined challenge will be mounted this week to one of the last bastions of trade union power. Members of the Prison Officers' Association, whose obduracy is likened by some ministers to that of Arthur Scargill's Yorkshire miners, are expected to face an ultimatum to end a seven-month industrial dispute that has disrupted Wakefield jail or risk losing their jobs.

The challenge by the prison authorities, with the blessing of the Home Office, will be the first recent attempt to end what one prison governor describes as a POA campaign of "industrial warfare". The Wakefield dispute is one of 70

disputes affecting 41 of the 123 jails of England and Wales. The POA claims that the prison department has reneged on agreements to provide extra staff to offset cuts in overtime.

Inquiries by *The Times* have uncovered many examples of the union openly defying governors and vigorously obstructing attempts at reforming the prison service.

Membership of the POA, which is run by John Bartell, accounts for 95 per cent of the 25,000 prison staff. Sir John Wheeler, chairman of the Commons home affairs select committee and once an assistant prison governor, said: "The POA is the *de facto* management of the prison service. The trade union is dictating policy to

the detriment of the criminal justice system."

Sir John is one of many urging the government to "grasp the nettle". The catalyst for action at Wakefield is the arrival this morning of Judge Tumm, chief inspector of prisons for England and Wales, for a week-long routine inspection, accompanied by ten experienced staff. Judge Tumm never hesitates to criticise lack of leadership in the service. Before he can do so at Wakefield, the prison authorities are expected to act against the POA.

Union members have been working to rule since the start of April after the prison department failed to provide a dozen additional staff demanded by the POA. They have refused to work flexible

hours or cover for senior officers or prison hospital and catering staff who might be absent or on leave. Their action has closed the prison workshops, reduced the scanty amount of education classes and has made conditions generally intolerable for Wakefield's 700 inmates.

Wakefield is one of four prisons where the POA is taking industrial action. It is also involved, however, in another 66 disputes at 37 prisons, all of which prevent the prisons from being run as their governors wish, because once a dispute is registered, the status quo must be maintained.

This means that at Bedford, the governor cannot reschedule visits; at Stafford, the governor cannot appoint the female staff he re-

quires; at Sval, Cheshire, night patrols cannot be reorganised; and at Dartmoor and Wandsworth, agency nurses cannot be employed in the hospitals to alleviate staff shortages.

Many of the disputes centre on manning levels. Mr Bartell has led a determined campaign for more staff that ensured his re-election as the POA's chairman earlier this year. "We are 3,000 staff short of what we need," he said.

The POA is also criticised for resisting reforms that might improve staffing levels. The Home Office has been struggling for years to introduce two acclaimed but unattractively-titled policies, "corporate objectives", which involve assessing the work to be done and relating it to the staff available.

and "civilianisation", which means employing ancillary staff in prison hospitals and kitchens to free trained prison officers to concentrate more on caring for the inmates.

Other reforms that would benefit prisoners, including giving low-risk inmates the right to wear their own clothes and improving education facilities, have also been resisted.

The government, despairing of the POA, plans to privatise some new and existing prisons, but Sir John, Conservative MP for Westminster North, believes in a more radical move. "Ultimately, the only answer," he said, "is to de-unionise the service".

Union is the power, page 2  
Leading article, page 15

## Optimism rises as UN says American hostage to be set free soon

# Shamir secures cabinet backing for Madrid talks

From RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM AND ALI JABER IN BEIRUT

ISRAEL yesterday overwhelmingly approved participation in next week's Middle East peace conference, in spite of warnings from three hardline ministers that the country was being led into a trap.

After a lengthy, and frequently acrimonious, debate the most uncompromising coalition government in Israel's history committed itself to talks with its Arab neighbours aimed at settling the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The decision was accompanied by renewed optimism over the fate of Western hostages in Lebanon. The

United Nations said yesterday that an American was expected to be freed within 24 hours. Attention centred on Jesse Turner, who has been held in Lebanon since January 24, 1987. Last week the group holding Mr Turner invited his wife and daughter to see him for one hour.

The Israeli cabinet vote — 16 in favour, three against and one abstention — was never in any real doubt, ever since Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, reluctantly agreed to attend the conference under pressure from James Baker, the US Secretary of State.

Western governments and moderate Arab states have been placed on an anti-terrorist alert after opposition to the conference from Iran, Iraq, Libya and the extremist groups they finance. Yesterday Iran hosted delegates from 45 countries at a meeting opposed to the conference, which is to be held in Madrid on October 30.

Syria, Jordan and Lebanon have agreed to attend the conference, sponsored by America and the Soviet Union. Egypt and the Saudi Arabian-led Gulf Co-operation Council plan to go as observers. Diplomatic sources in Washington said Israel and Syria were already at odds about where to go from Madrid.

Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, flew to Amman yesterday from Damascus, with a letter from President Assad of Syria to King Hussein about the possible convening of a mini-Arab summit ahead of the Middle East peace conference.

Boris Pankin, the Soviet foreign minister, who also visited Damascus and Amman yesterday, said that difficulties lay ahead. Mr

Pankin has voiced support for Syria's insistence on security council resolutions 242 and 338 — stipulating Israel's exchange of land for peace with its Arab neighbours — as a basis for a settlement. Israel rejects the principle, saying it has already complied by returning the Sinai to Egypt.

Although the key Israeli conditions for attendance, namely the make-up of the Palestinian delegation and the face-to-face bilateral talks, have been met, there is right-wing suspicion in Israel that Washington is intent on imposing an unacceptable territorial compromise.

The mood at yesterday's cabinet meeting was summed up by the transport minister, Moshe Katzav, a Likud party member who voted in favour of attendance, but said: "We have decided to attend but with reservations. Not one member of the cabinet voted with 100 per cent certainty."

Predictably, opposition to the move was led by Ariel Sharon, the housing minister, who demanded that Mr Shamir step down as prime minister over the peace conference. Mr Sharon suggested that the leadership fight American pressure to attend the talks by mobilising world Jewry against President Bush.

The other two opponents were Yuval Neeman, the science minister and leader of the small and extreme Techiya party, and Rehavam Zeevi, a minister without portfolio and leader of the Mokedei party, who warned the government not to negotiate with a

Continued on page 20, col 1



Uplifting: Jesse Turner's daughter Joanne, with her grandfather, Eugene Ronneburg

## Tory 'retreat' on health

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM Waldegrave yesterday surprised the Treasury by indicating that the government could retreat from the Thatcherite policy of providing tax relief for pensioners taking out private health care.

The health secretary's suggestion that the relief may be withdrawn in the next budget was greeted with incredulity by Labour, which accused the government of reversing a range of policies introduced under Margaret Thatcher.

"I have to say it has not worked very well," Mr Waldegrave said on television. "It is expensive to administer and has not been taken up, I gather, very widely." His hint that John

Major's government was preparing to distance itself still further from the free market drive of his predecessor came as the government made clear that it is deeply unhappy with the system for awarding independent television franchises. Mr Major intends to carry out reform of the system if the Conservatives win the general election.

Mr Waldegrave's indication that the government might scrap tax relief for private health care came as ministers prepared for today's Commons debate on the health service with an Harris opinion poll in *The Observer* giving Labour a seven point lead. The full figures show Labour

up five points on last month at 46, Conservative down one on 39, Liberal Democrats down one on 12, Nationalists on three and Greens on one.

Today Tony Newton, the social security secretary, will announce a 4.1 per cent increase in pensions from April and a 7.2 per cent boost to income-related benefits, including income support and housing benefit. The annual uprating of social security benefits will also give an unexpected bonus to the over 80s: their weekly supplement has been frozen at 25p and will be increased to 50p. There will

Continued on page 20, col 6

Diary, page 14

## BCCI enquiry arrests

By BILL FROST

A CITY accountant seconded to the Serious Fraud Office to work on the Bank of Credit and Commerce International enquiry will appear today before Horseferry Road magistrates, central London, charged with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

Mark Bailey, aged 24 of Bexleyheath, southeast London, who is employed by

Coopers and Lybrand, was arrested at the weekend. Also arrested was Bernard Lynch, aged 28, a self-employed accountant, of Forest Hill, south-east London. Both are charged with conspiracy to remove, destroy or deface evidence relating to fraud trials following the BCCI collapse.

Questions for Bass, page 21

## Heaven is polite nudists and speechless MPs

By RUTH GLEDHILL

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

EARTH would appear to be hell for most people living on it, if two books on views of heaven are anything to go by. With a few notable exceptions, most seem to want in heaven simply the opposite of what they have on earth.

Many men might imagine that heaven would be to stand in the boots of Will Carling, captain of the England rugby team. Carling himself, however, longs to escape the bruises of earthly life. Perhaps with foresight of the weekend's World Cup quarter-final against France in Paris, he writes somewhat wistfully of his longing for "an amazingly peaceful, soporific atmosphere... everyone gets out of each other's way and if you happen to bump a fellow 'transparent', everyone actually says, 'I'm sorry'". In his heaven, everyone wears crease-

free white robes, with a red sash for the extra nice. Babies do not cry. Joan Collins looks 70, and Pavarotti sings free at every cloud junction.

The Rev Nick Aiken, of the Church of England's Guildford Diocese, asked celebrities to describe their perfect day trip to heaven. His book follows a similar work compiled by Fr Michael Seed, ecumenical adviser to Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster.

A child of eight in Fr Seed's book longs for "a place where animals don't bite". Ken Hargreaves, the Conservative MP, fantasises of a heavenly parliament "where St Dennis Skinner doesn't always have the last word". The Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, looks forward in both books to meeting Christ, and in Mr Aiken's book fashion celebrities dream of a world where clothes do not exist.

Sue Townsend, the diabetic creator of Adrian Mole, longs to eat chocolate and smoke cigarettes to her heart's content. Julian Pettifer, the broadcaster, dreams of talent contests on television, no life insurance salesmen and no plastic cups. Ken Livingstone, the Labour MP, seeks "no fear, no loathing, no Thatcher, no Tebbit", while Liberal Democrat Sir Cyril Smith hopes "to be allowed to sit and snooze — no teeth in slippers on... to watch a soap opera to help me to sleep".

David Shepherd, the wildlife artist, hopes he will not be mistaken for David Sheppard, the Bishop of Liverpool, as happens frequently on earth, and John Major dreams of celestial cricket.

Day Trips to Heaven (Marshall Pickering, £5.99, all royalties to the Prince's Trust). I Will See You in Heaven, St Paul Publications, £24.95).

## Convoy forced to abandon sick in 'medieval siege'

The extent of the agony of Vukovar is becoming apparent as relief workers describe conditions under the federal attack, reports Anne McElroy

THE full horror of the siege of Vukovar was laid bare to relief workers just returned from the Croatian town after a gruelling 13-hour journey across the most perilous territory in the Yugoslav conflict. The grey, fixed expressions of the aid workers and the mud-spattered white uniforms of the monitors bore witness to the horror of the trip. Few had even the energy to speak. Those who did said the town was suffering all the pain of a medieval siege, made bloodier still by the destructive power of modern weaponry.

The convoy, organised by the French charity Médecin Sans Frontières and accompanied by European Community monitors, evacuated 109 seriously wounded people. But others, including the elderly sick, had to be left behind. One medical worker said: "People were reaching out their arms to us as we drove into Vukovar, begging us to take them with us. It was a torture to have to ignore them."

As the convoy halted outside the Djakovo hospital gates, guarded by nervous Croat guardsmen and kept in total darkness to ward off air attacks, Bert Nauta, a Dutch monitor sat motionless in his ambulance with his head buried in his hands, exhaustion rendering his face a mask. "It was a

terrible journey," he said. "Everything that could go wrong did. Our great fear was that people would die on the way."

Seven people had to be transported to Zagreb yesterday for emergency treatment. Faced with the cruel choice imposed by the limited space and the danger of the route out, it was decided to transport only those whose condition was considered stable enough to survive a gruelling journey.

The wounded of Vukovar were piled hastily into trucks covered with canvas to allow a quick getaway. Only eight people could be afforded the luxury of an ambulance. As soon as the last of the vehicles left the town, a fresh bombardment began.

When the first tarpaulin cover was pulled back, it revealed a mass of bodies lying four deep in a ghastly mess of bloodied bandages, pins, and dangling, disjointed limbs. A woman's voice moaned over and over again: "Get us out, please get us out."

One driver spoke of a scene of "complete devastation". The town has been without electricity, water or food supplies for about three weeks.

The convoy arrived at the

Continued on page 20, col 2

Coast road opened, page 7

### TODAY IN THE TIMES

### HARD DRIVING



Ayrtton Senna retained his world Formula One championship yesterday while Australia and New Zealand won rugby World Cup semi-final places  
Pages 35, 36 and 40

### HIGH STEPPING



Since Lynn Seymour was introduced to Covent Garden in *The Burrow*, the choreography has been virtually forgotten. Now the ballet is to be rescued  
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## Trollope to take his place among Abbey's great and good



Trollope: cause supported by the prime minister

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE Trollope Society yesterday claimed victory for its vigorous campaign, backed by the prime minister and his wife, to win Anthony Trollope a niche in the overcrowded confines of Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey.

Trollope, who wrote the Barchinensis chronicles and the Palliser novels in his spare time (he had a full-time job with the Post Office, for whom he invented the pillar box), is to be commemorated with the first of 30 plaques in a previously plain south transept window which the dean and chapter of the abbey have agreed can be

pressed into service as an annex for late literary luminaries who cannot be accommodated elsewhere. Poets' Corner was declared full last month when Laurence Olivier's ashes were buried in the last remaining space beneath the floor, appropriately at the foot of Shakespeare's monument. Olivier was not the first actor to find his way into the corner. He was preceded by David Garrick.

The chapter decreed that Olivier's plaque should be the last in a space whose floor and walls are now thickly covered with a jumble of memorials and plaques to 100 writers, including Chaucer, Milton, Dickens, Hardy, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Longfellow, Tennyson, Kipling, Jane Austen and George Eliot.

Lord Rees-Mogg, a former editor of *The Times* and a founder of the Trollope Society, had volunteered to take a crowbar to prise out those he considered less deserving occupants of precious space if room were not found for Trollope. The peer had specifically singled out D.H. Lawrence.

The Trollope Society's cause was undeniably assisted by the arrival of John Major as prime minister. He and his wife, Norma, are members of the society and regularly pack Trollope novels as their holiday reading, though Mr Major is also known to read books by Jeffrey Archer. The prime minister wrote a letter of support for Trollope's claim to recognition which would have been difficult for the abbey authorities to ignore.

Historically it has always helped to have such a champion in high places. Ben Jonson was backed by the Earl of Oxford, and Shakespeare by Pope, Burlington and others.

## Maintain standards or forfeit licence, ITV losers are told

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE licences of the four losers in the ITV auction could be revoked immediately between now and their expiry at the end of next year if the Independent Television Commission finds a serious decline in the quality and breadth of programmes being broadcast.

George Russell, chairman of the commission, has said that any company not living up to its contractual obligations would be forced off air early and replaced by the newcomer.

"If eventually they are barely carrying a service, we obviously have the right to take them off air and ask the



All quiet but behind the grim exterior of Wandsworth prison a struggle for authority is continuing

## BBC 'should end local services'

By OUR MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC should move out of local radio and television and concentrate entirely on providing a high-quality national service that can keep the new ITV on its toes, George Russell, chairman of the Independent Television Commission, said yesterday.

Speaking on Channel 4's *Answering Back* yesterday, Mr Russell, who presided over the government's blind-bid tender for ITV franchises, said: "If the BBC wants to use its money they should use it to be the major national broadcaster. They've got five radio channels, two television channels, and a world service. You know, that's a pretty big job to concentrate on."

His comments come as broadcasters and politicians turn their attention to the future structure and funding of the corporation in the lead-up to the expiry of its royal charter in 1996. The Home

## Jail union holds the key to reform

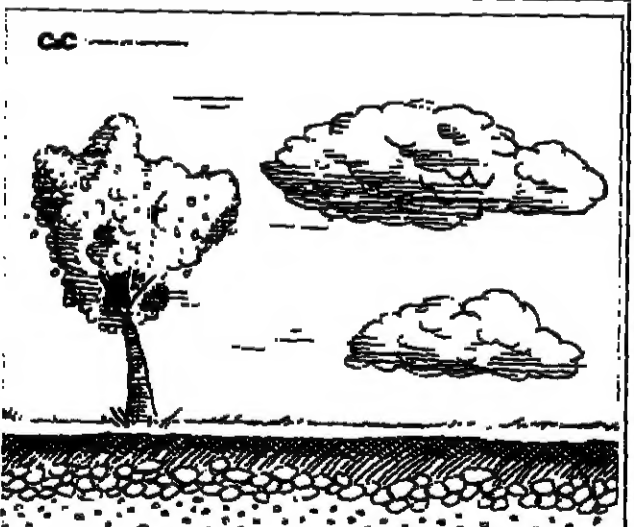
A PRISONER, a governor and three prison officers were involved in a recent dispute on the top landing of E wing in Wandsworth Jail, south London. No one was hurt, no abuse was hurled but the incident a few days ago said as much about the state of Britain's prisons as the worst of the riots of the past two years.

An apparently simple argument over the housing of a Wandsworth inmate carrying the hepatitis virus has shown the powers of the Prison Officers' Association, Tony Dawe reports

maning levels and these have prevented prisoners from attending education classes and workshops and have even cut the number of baths and changes of clothing available to them. The union argues that there are not enough officers to provide these facilities but critics accuse the union of being bloody-minded.

Last month, the prison authorities attempted to tackle the staffing issue by employing six agency nurses in the prison hospital. The POA objected to the move and started a second dispute.

Terry McLaren, former POA branch secretary at Wandsworth and now a member of the union's national executive, said: "We need 26 extra officers now in Wandsworth to return the regime to what it was five years ago."



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Russell: franchises could be revoked immediately. Office has now begun a rigorous examination of the BBC's role, the results of which will be published in a discussion document next year. All options will be considered, including subscription and the privatisation of radio 1 and 2.

Mr Russell described Margaret Thatcher's apologetic letter to Bruce Gyngell, the TV-am chairman, as "surprising" because her system for awarding licences had been "carried out to the full".

He defended the controversial £500,000 "golden handcuff" payment which had kept Michael Grade at Channel 4 as chief executive. He said Mr Grade was "well worth hanging on to" as one of the only people who could successfully retain Channel 4's remit for minority and experimental programming in a more competitive broadcasting environment.

## Psychiatric wing may close

By QUENTIN COWDREY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE prison service's new director believes urgent steps should be taken to close the psychiatric wing at Brixton jail in south London where 14 inmates have committed suicide since January 1989.

No firm decision has been made, but Joe Pilling, who took charge of the service last month, considers it is almost impossible to raise standards within the unit to an acceptable level. The wing, housing 240 prisoners, most of them

mentally disturbed, has been condemned in a report on the state of Britain's jails compiled by Council of Europe prison inspectors. Attempts to improve the regime on F wing have been undermined by the block's gloomy Victorian design, stretched staffing levels and the sheer number of mentally disordered prisoners who use it.

Inquest juries have concluded that three of the suicides on F wing over the past two years were brought about by lack of care. Coroners have criticised prison officers and medical staff for not consulting more with one another.

Mr Pilling is to consider alternative ways of dealing with the 7,000 mentally disordered men sent to Brixton each year during a meeting today with Ian Boon, area manager for jails in south London. Some prisoners may be sent to the new Belmarsh jail in southeast London.

## Home makes most of sun

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ON THE outskirts of Rhayader, in mid-Wales, a home is nearing completion that, according to its designer, is the most advanced low-energy house in the world. The four-bedroom home, planned as a blueprint for solar villages across Britain, uses 15 innovations to store energy from sunlight. The features, which are simple to install, mean that 90 to 95 per cent of heating is by free energy from sunshine.

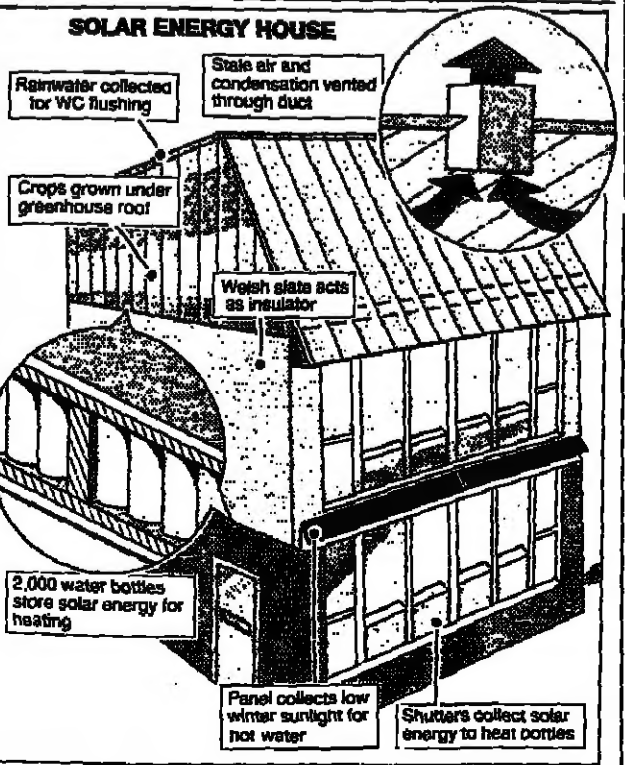
The annual heating bill will be about £40, with costs confined to December and January, according to its designer, who has named it the Survivor House. A similar-sized house built to 1985 building regulations has an average heating bill of more

than £400, and older structures often have much higher bills. The designer, David Stephens, a building scientist, said: "Low-energy homes have, up to now, saved about 50 per cent, but we are talking about saving much more."

Passive solar buildings normally use the walls as a heat store, but Mr Stephens favours water stores to radiate warmth into rooms when the temperature falls. Two thousand glass water bottles, each containing five litres, are sandwiched between storeys.

Solar radiation, striking south-facing windows, his half-opened shutters that transfer energy into the air and on into the water stores. The walls, because not used for heat storage, can be heavily insulated. In addition, Welsh slate and clay tiles insulate outside surfaces.

One problem with passive solar housing can be condensation and stale air causing occupants to open windows, losing energy. Mr Stephens has run a passive duct through the house and out through the roof, from which controlled amounts of air can escape.



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## EC code to call for stronger laws on sexual harassment

By LOUISE HIDALGO

THE European parliament is tonight expected to approve a code of practice on sexual harassment which, if ratified, could clear up once and for all what constitutes sexual intimidation in the European workplace.

The code, due to be officially launched in The Hague at the beginning of next month, has been welcomed by British groups that have been campaigning for a legal definition of sexual harassment, a move backed by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

It spells out what behaviour constitutes sexual harassment and urges governments to

strengthen existing legislation to cover it, and also to implement the code in the public sector as an example to private employers. Employers are urged to adopt their own policies, educate employees and set up procedures for dealing with complaints.

Although the code will not have the legal force of an EC directive, member states have to report back to the EC in three years on how they have implemented it.

The code has been welcomed by Women Against Sexual Harassment (Wash), a lobby group that this year alone expects to deal with

more than 5,500 complaints of sexual harassment, a third of them from men.

Louise Noakes, the co-ordinator of Wash, said: "The EC has recognised sexual harassment as one of the most important forms of discrimination in the work place and has given us a definition which gets rid of the grey area of when behaviour becomes sexual intimidation."

Since the US Senate's decision last week to ratify Clarence Thomas's nomination as a Supreme Court judge, after a lengthy and much publicised debate over an allegation that he had sexually intimidated a woman law professor ten years before, Wash has received more than 50 calls from women pursuing their own cases of sexual harassment.

Most, according to Ms Noakes, said they feared that the publicity accompanying the Thomas decision would not have helped, but could rather have hindered their cases.

"They are questioning how people will respond to them if an articulate woman, prepared to undergo a lie detector test, has seemingly had her complaint so publicly rejected."

The Equal Opportunities Commission last week called on the government to strengthen the 1975 Sexual Discrimination Act to include its own definition of sexual harassment. The amendment would, the organisation said, clarify women's recourse, and class sexual harassment as discrimination. It put recommendations on the issue to the Home Office last November. The government has not yet issued a decision.

Michael Rubenstein, the co-ordinator of Equal Opportunities Review and a consultant to the European Commission on the code of conduct, said the issue was not what constituted sexual harassment but how to give victims the confidence to come forward.

"The government needs to put effort into publicising that this type of behaviour is unacceptable, unlawful and a disciplinary offence," he said. "There are a lot of women putting up with sexual harassment at work because they are not sufficiently confident they will be listened to if they stand up to it."

The number of complaints about sexual intimidation at work has been steadily rising in recent years, according to the EOC. The commission received 463 formal complaints between January last year and May this year, 25 per cent more than a similar period a year before.

Nearly 300 cases of sexual harassment have been taken to industrial tribunals since 1986, of which 54 were successful and 150 settled out of court. Several companies, including British Rail, the Royal Bank of Scotland, ICI and the Midland Bank, have already adopted policies and procedures on sexual harassment.

## Thomas case puts offices on edge

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

LOTHARIOS of the American office who have failed to get the message after a week of national agony over sexual harassment have something new to worry about: the object of their advances may be wired for sound.

From costly spy equipment report a rush for recorders built into brief cases and handbags. "We're flooded with calls," said Ed Sklar, president of Spytech, a New York firm selling bugs. "Women are coming in and saying they never realised what their bosses are doing is illegal." Spy World, a rival, reports "a real big upsurge in the last eight days". "My boss had been harassing me about three and a half years," said Shirley, a Spytech customer. "I finally said I'm going to buy me a tape recorder so when he starts talking this garbage to me, I'm going to have it on me."

However, in the sexual battlefield that has opened up after the Senate's Clarence Thomas hearings, women are not having it all their way. Shops report that up to a third of orders are from men fearful that in the current climate of suspicion, they may be the target of accusations. "I'm taping everything in case the occasion arises where it's one person's word against another," said a New York executive who bought an attaché case with a recorder. Some bosses are installing "anti-bug" devices to detect tape recorders.

The notion that your colleague may be bugging you is hardly likely to calm the psychological shockwave that has surged through offices since Anita Hill took her charges against Judge Thomas to Capitol Hill.

As women flood the media with accounts of suffering at the hands of insensitive or predatory bosses, feminists are declaring that men have "finally got the

message". Even if most women disbelieve Professor Hill, according to polls, the national consciousness has been jolted. "It has been the most major national click on an issue since the early 1970s, when the women's movement first took off," Rosemary Dempsey, of the National Organisation of Women, said.

Companies are forbidding joke-telling and "dating" between employees, and are holding sensitivity seminars and banning terms such as "honey" that might make women feel demeaned.

Many men are said to be confused about what is acceptable, a matter of some import now that the office has replaced singles bars, health clubs and discos as



Hill sent a shockwave through American offices the main hunting ground for mates in America. "Men and women now work side by side, but still look at each other with fear and bewilderment," the *Wall Street Journal* said in a supplement on the post-Thomas battle of the sexes.

"Are offices destined to become sombre and serious with people living in fear of offending their co-workers?" the *Journal* wondered. With caution, it presented what it said was an acceptable joke — "Question: How many women does it take to change a light bulb? Answer: One and there is nothing funny about it."

## Master forger confesses

THE late Tom Keating, widely recognised as the 20th century's greatest art faker, has a rival. His name is Eric Hebborn.

Posing as an ill-informed art dealer during the late Sixties and early Seventies, Mr Hebborn infiltrated the art market with as many as 1,000 drawings in the style of Van Dyck, Poussin, Watteau and Picasso. All were by his own hand. Some have ended up in institutions such as the British Museum in London and the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, while others have gone into private collections, where their true nature remains undetected.

The latest twist in this extraordinary tale, which will be published next month in *Drawn to Trouble*, Mr Hebborn's autobiography, is the author's disregard for the consequences.

Speaking yesterday from his home outside Rome, Mr Hebborn, aged 57, scorned the experts who accepted his efforts as genuine and issued this challenge: "If anyone wants to take me to court they can, but I think they will be too embarrassed to do so."

Mr Hebborn's story is in many ways similar to that of Tom Keating. Both came from cockney backgrounds and learned the tricks of the faking trade by training as picture restorers.

Mr Hebborn moved in more prestigious circles, however, having attended the Royal Academy school as a

The experts say they always had doubts about Eric Hebborn, but he still managed to pass off up to 1,000 of his drawings, writes Sarah Jane Checkland

student. There he made friends with the late Anthony Blunt, surveyor of the Queen's pictures, and later disgraced as a Russian spy. "Although we were both homosexual and Anthony was certainly attracted to me physically, what fascinated me about him was his mind," writes Mr Hebborn in a chapter about his adventures with this unusual "drinking pal".

Among his oeuvre are the following: *Sir Anthony Van Dyck's Christ Crowned with Thorns*, purchased by the British Museum from the London dealer Cohnaghi in the late 1960s. Yesterday the museum confirmed that, following "suspicions around the late 1970s" the drawing was now "considered the work of Eric Hebborn".

The change in attribution was not reported to the trustees, however, until last year and, as it is not the museum's policy to sell anything from its collection, it is keeping it. The museum did not ask for its money back.

*Young Man with a Lance*, attributed to Francesco del Cossa at Sotheby's sale on April 20, 1967, and sub-

sequently sold to the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, which has also recently altered its attribution.

Yesterday Richard Day, Sotheby's expert at that time, says the fact that he said the work was "attributed to" shows he was "obviously nervous" about the authenticity at the time. The collectors' marks of Richard and Reynolds, pressed into the paper by previous owners, were "smudged", he said. "They looked as though they had been through water."

*Preparatory Study for an Etching*, by Piranesi, authenticated by Anthony Blunt, was bought for £4,300 by the late Hans Calmann, a London dealer who sold it on to the national gallery of Denmark for £14,000. This drawing is understood to be still considered genuine by the museum.

Yesterday experts insisted they had had doubts when Mr Hebborn was offering them works but that nothing could be proved. "There were no coded messages in the works like with other forgers. It is all slightly embarrassing," Mr Day said. Julian Stock, his successor at Sotheby's, said: "We have always pointed a finger at Hebborn, and thought he had done a lot of fakes but he has never come clean."

Mr Hebborn says he held back from telling his story out of respect for the members of the art world he admired and who are now dead, such as Anthony Blunt.



Tartan gathering: Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy, who were in Scotland yesterday to worship in the church where two of the former US president's ancestors married. After being greeted by the Rev Gordon Kirkwood, right, the Reagans, both wearing tartan outfits, took part in the Sunday service at Castlehead church in Paisley.

Presbyterian service in a church capable of holding 400.

Mr Reagan's great, great grandparents, Cland Wilson, a weaver, and Peggy Downie, were married in the church in 1807. Peggy Downie's father was sentenced to death then deported to Amsterdam in 1794 for an anti-government plot. The tartan jacket Mr Reagan wore at the service was said to be the Wilson family tartan.

The Reagans, at the start of a visit to Scotland where the former president

was installed last night as a member of the "Keepers of the Quaich", a society promoting Scotch whisky, had not originally planned to visit Paisley. It is understood that advisers initially liked the idea of a visit to Paisley, believing it to be a quiet old Scottish village. They had second thoughts after learning it to be a big industrial town with a history of radical politics.

As they left the church, the Reagans were presented with a picture of the church painted by Margaret Barrie, a parishioner.

## One third of Britons 'over 50 by 2021'

By PETER VICTOR

MORE than one third of Britain's population will be over the age of 50 by the year 2021, according to a study published today by the University of Strathclyde's Centre for the Study of Public Policy.

The report, *Older Britons*, says that the number over the age of 50 is expected to increase by 5.3 million in the next three decades while the number under that age will decline by 2.1 million.

More money will be needed to provide national insurance pensions, at present the largest single item in the public budget at £24 billion a year. Increasing numbers of women claiming pensions independent of their husbands will lead to a disproportionate increase in the amount spent, says the centre.

Health services also will require greater funding. People over the age of 50 already account for almost two thirds of health service spending.

Older people will be better off financially, however, as a greater proportion will be home owners. While just over half of older Britons are home owners at present, the proportion will have increased to more than two thirds in 20 years' time.

At present, the report says, less than 1 per cent of the retired population is not white. There will be at least a fourfold increase in the number of retired people from ethnic minorities.



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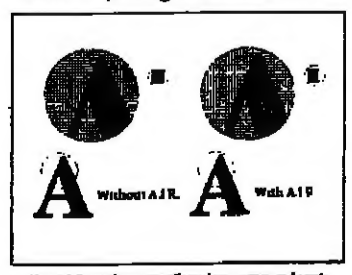
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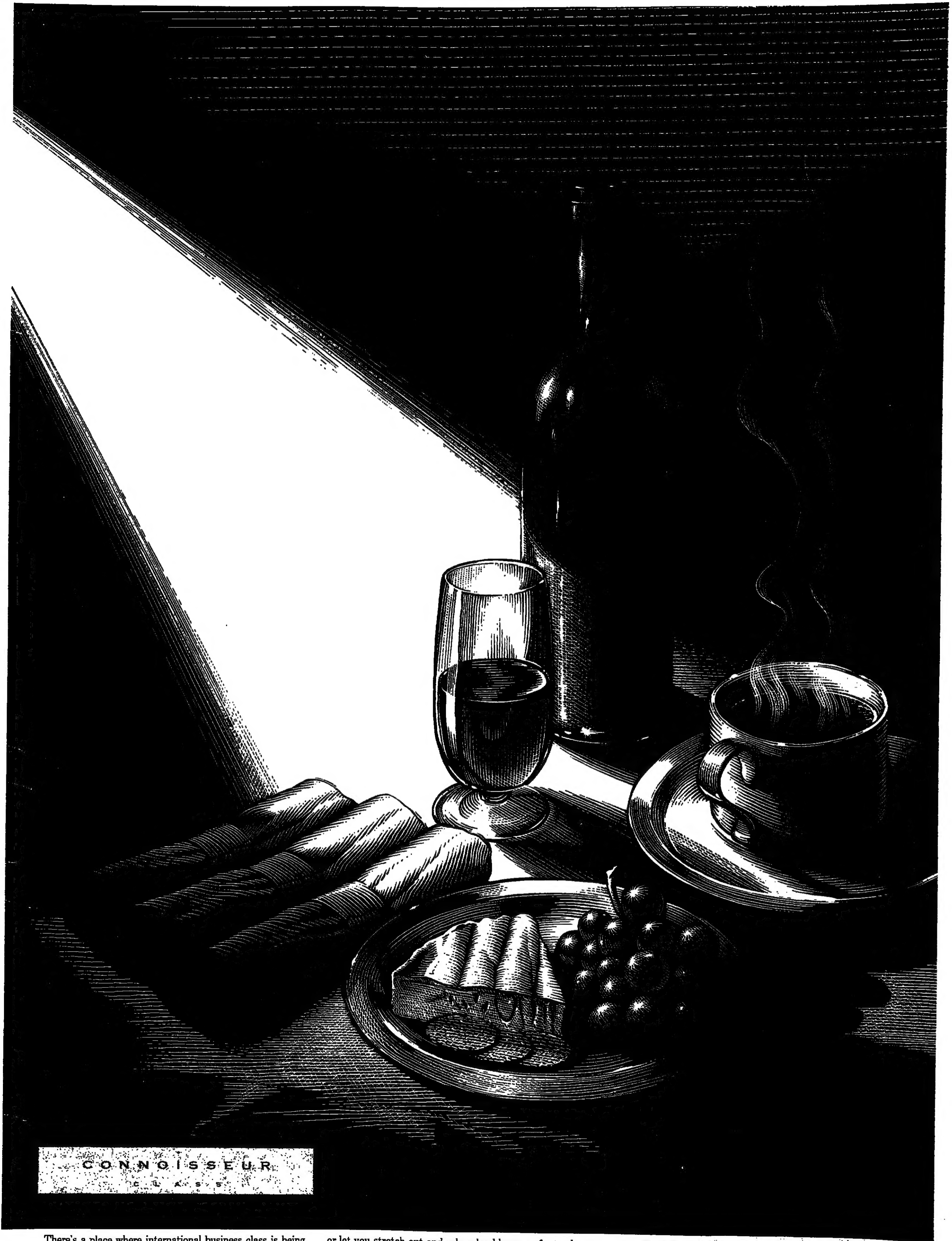
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## Standards and facilities under fire

## Mackay criticises magistrates for poor service in courts

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MAGISTRATES were berated by the Lord Chancellor at the weekend over the poor quality of service in their courts and for paying too little attention to witnesses, defendants and other court users.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern told JPs at the annual meeting of the Magistrates' Association in London on Saturday that it could be an "eye opener" if they saw what occurred in the foyer of their court on a busy day. The standard of service in some cases had fallen "well below what court users may reasonably expect to receive".

He cited letters he had received indicating "considerable concern" at the lack of attention paid by courts to the convenience and comfort of users. In some courts, he said, he was told that there were no adequate facilities for telling people what cases were to be heard or how the court worked, so that "people may be left sitting in the court's foyer when the bench has retired at lunchtime, not knowing what is happening and what they should do".

One unrepresented defendant had complained that no attempt was made by the court to explain who was speaking or what his role was. A survey by a magistrate in one area had shown that a defendant

thought the crown prosecutor was running the court.

In another case, a man was ushered into the magistrates' room, where he was given coffee and joined in the general discussion. "It was only five minutes before the court sat that it was discovered he was a defendant and not a magistrate," Lord Mackay said.

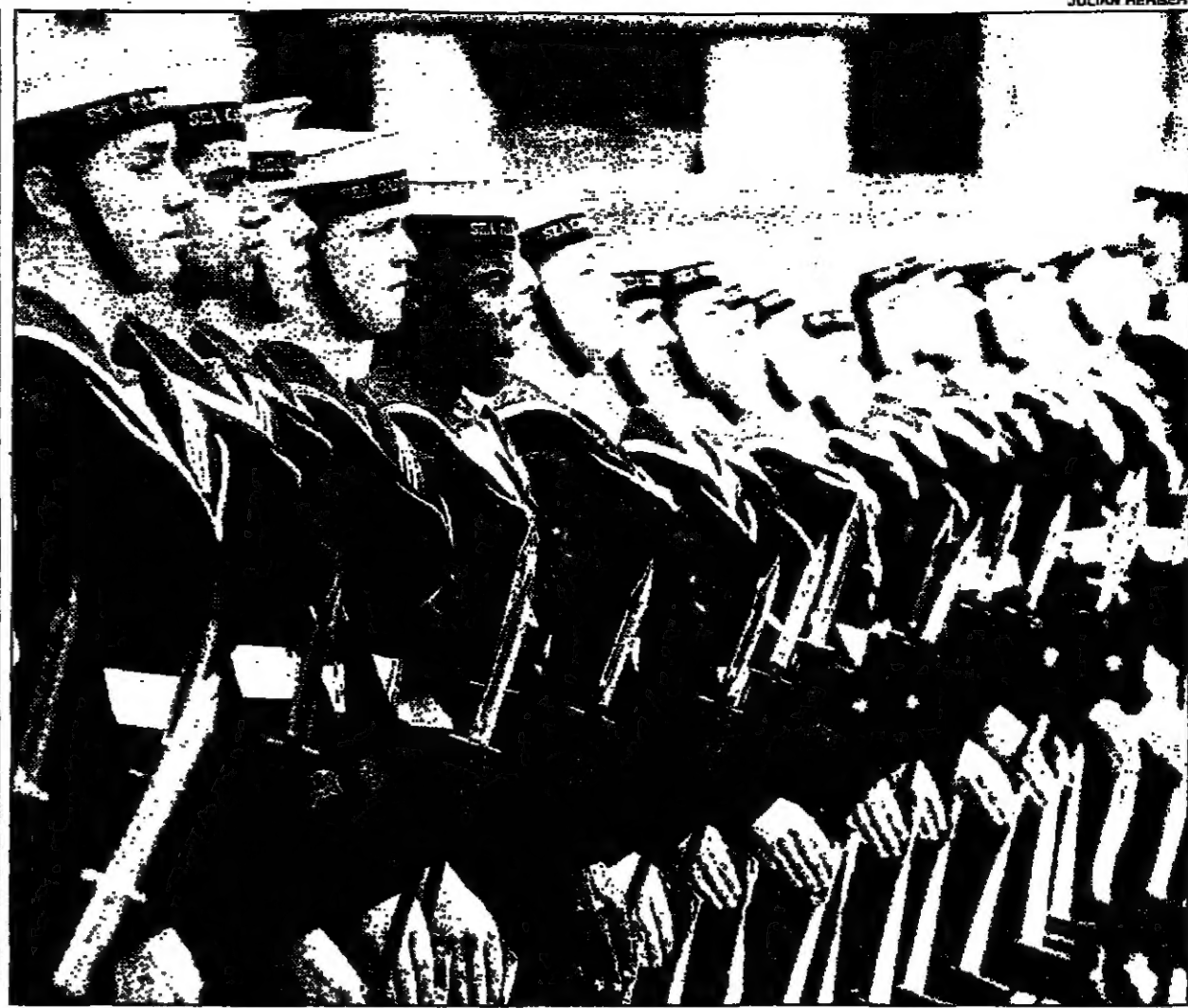
He also criticised courts that were still operating a system of block listing, so that all cases were listed for hearing at 10am, for example. All courts should now have staggered listing, he said.

The victims' charter published last year by the home secretary provided a checklist of the services courts should provide, he said. The checklist included whether people were given an information leaflet on how to get to court or where to park; whether court listing was done on a block basis or in a way to cut inconvenience to witnesses; whether there were public telephones or refreshment facilities; whether there were notices and signs so people knew where to go; and whether there were separate waiting areas for victims and accused.

Lord Mackay reminded JPs that most witnesses and defendants would be in court for the

first time and likely to be nervous and apprehensive. He praised ushers who found time to steer people to the right place. How courts were chaired was of crucial importance to magistrates' reputation and image. The chairman must ensure that he or she was seen to be in control and not assume people understood the procedure.

The Lord Chancellor also commented on the need to recruit younger magistrates, which he said was of fundamental importance. Some steps had been taken with success, but more needed to be done, he said. He had encouraged magistrates' advisory committees to make contact with local employers through open days and meetings. Another help would be the recent increase in allowances announced by the home secretary, he said.



Sea lord's salute: sea cadets representing units from the Home Counties, Midlands and South-West parading in front of Nelson's column to mark Trafalgar Day yesterday. The salute was taken by the Second Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Michael Livesey. The Duke of York took the salute at another parade in Windsor

## Research resources 'should be pooled'

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

UNIVERSITIES should pool resources to prevent some contributions being left without the academic expertise to attract industry when research income is distributed more selectively, the new chairman of their funding council says today.

Universities' automatic entitlement to research income is to be scaled down as more of the science budget is targeted on top-rated departments. Ministers have said that some universities will have to concentrate on teaching.

In an interview with *The Times*, Sir Ron Dearing, the first person to chair both the polytechnics' and the universities' councils, calls for "regional clustering" to preserve research. "I think it would be a blow to a major contribution if it found itself with institutions that were not rated well in research, because it would reduce the ability of higher education to interact with industry and help nourish growth."

Education, page 31

## Lawyers urged to resist funds plan

THE government's proposals for a system of funding magistrates' courts by results was severely criticised by the chairman of the Bar at the weekend. Anthony Scrivener, QC, told the Law Society conference in Brussels that such a system was more appropriate to "canning peas" than ensuring that justice was done (Frances Gibb writes).

He said the dogma of market forces and the concepts of buying and selling were now being applied to areas where they were entirely inappropriate. He added: "Unless we join together to object, justice and service to the public will become submerged as the disciples of the market force economy pour out to impose the gospel."

Under the government's proposals, which have been widely criticised by magistrates and justices' clerks, the level of funding magistrates' courts would receive would be according to the number of cases they heard, how quickly they heard them, and how soon fines were collected.

Mr Scrivener said that the

well-equipped, fully staffed courts would be able to attain a high level of efficiency while the smaller, poorer courts would become even smaller and poorer.

Mr Scrivener said that the distribution of grants should be left to the central council of magistrates' courts committees so that resources could be used to improve facilities where needed. "To use market force dogma to drive the poorer courts into the ground makes no sense."

The system had nothing to do with dispensing justice, he added. It was the "brave new world" for magistrates' courts. Company directors and managers responsible for deaths and injury in disasters could be disqualified from business for up to ten years under a new draft bill launched at the conference in Brussels.

David McIntosh, senior partner of the London law firm Davies Arnold Cooper, which has formulated the proposals, said that too often "corporate high-ups" went unpunished while those lower down suffered prosecution.

## 'Missing' Mozart script rediscovered

By JOHN SEAW

A MOZART manuscript, thought to be lost for almost 130 years, has been rediscovered on the Continent and will be auctioned on December 6, the day after he died in 1791.

The church sonata in C major for organ and orchestra K329/317a was last known in 1864. The pre-sale estimate would have astonished the composer, who always had money troubles. Sotheby's has put it at £200,000-£300,000.

Scholars believe the work was probably written to be performed with the great coronation mass in C major, first heard in Salzburg in March 1779. It is in the same key and scored for the same instruments, including two trumpets, which were rarely heard in Salzburg Cathedral.

Ludwig von Köchel (1800-77) the man who first classified, and thus gave his name to all Mozart's work, mentions the manuscript but describes it as lost. The piece was listed in a sale catalogue of 1864. It then belonged to a collector in Paris, but was not heard of again until a man brought it into one of Sotheby's offices on the Continent. The man, who had not been aware of the manuscript's importance, wishes to remain anonymous.

Stephen Roe, the firm's music expert in London, who has been involved with several Mozart discoveries, realised its importance. The document consists of 21

pages written in brown-black ink on 12 folded sheets of paper. The title, *Sonata*, in Mozart's hand, has been crossed out and substituted by Nissen, the composer's first biographer, with the words in German Symphony with organ accompaniment 177.

Mozart died on December 5 1791 and Dr Roe said it had been decided not to sell it on the anniversary because potential buyers



Mozart: manuscript valued at £200,000-£300,000 might be involved with tributes to the composer on that date.

Other Mozart material on offer includes an affectionate two-page letter to his wife written from Frankfurt a year before he died and part of the libretto for *Il Seraglio*.

□ Jewellery belonging to the late Countess Irina Tolstoy, grand niece of Leo Tolstoy, is expected to make up to £250,000 at Christie's in New York tomorrow.

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## Renault to install computer padlock to beat joyriders

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

A SECRET switch will protect a new generation of high-performance cars from joyriders who steal them by "hot-wiring" their engines.

Thieves steal 500,000 cars a year, triggering the starter motor by passing the ignition switch and connecting electrical wires behind the dashboard, a manoeuvre that takes only a few seconds. Renault, however, seeks to be the first company in Europe to protect its fastest cars by fitting an electronic cut-out switch that prevents the engine from being started illegally.

The computer padlock, as it

is known, is activated by a key that is inserted into a lock hidden in the car. Only the owner and mechanics who fit the system at Renault UK's engineering centre in London will know where the activator lock and computer control system are hidden.

The switch will be fitted to Renault's four high-performance cars, starting with the Renault Clio 16v that goes on sale in Britain from November 1. The others are the Renault 19 16v, the 21 2L Turbo and the Alpine GTA.

The cars will be the only ones on sale in Britain with a factory-fitted engine isolator,

even though manufacturers have been told by Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, that it is the simplest way to deter thieves. Mr Baker has given car makers until Christmas to come up with proposals for protecting their cars against crime that costs insurers £600 million a year. He is angry that, although manufacturers have made big improvements in the performance of their cars, they have done little to ensure their vehicles are not vulnerable to theft or break-ins.

Mr Baker said: "Manufacturers are the masters of technology and that technology can be used to reduce car crime. It would be effective to install an isolating switch so that, if someone breaks in, then the thief cannot take the car."

Executives from Renault UK were among the manufacturers who met Mr Baker at the Home Office earlier this month. Michel Gigou, the company's managing director, ordered his engineers to come up with ideas for an engine isolator. The result costs about £100 and uses an infra-red transmitter to sense whether anyone is breaking into the car. When it detects movement, an alarm sounds and the computer is told to shut down all electronic systems in the engine.

If the owner loses the activator key, the system can be over-riden by punching a personal identification number into the computer control in the engine compartment. Three wrong attempts will shut down the computer until Renault engineers are called in. M. Gigou said: "The isolator system is simple but effective. Thieves cannot get away with the car even if they do find the isolator. And then they would have to know the code to start the engine."

Renault has refused to fix deadlocks to its cars because it believes they could be dangerous in accidents in which rescue services would have to unlock the doors. Deadlocks of the kind fitted by Ford and Vauxhall cannot be tripped from the inside even if thieves break windows to gain entry. Renault's refusal has sparked a debate within the motor industry, which wants EC-wide standards on vehicle security.

## Charity premiere for rare Burton

By TIM JONES

A RARE film of Richard Burton which the actor would not allow to be shown in his lifetime is to receive its premiere in Britain next month to help to raise funds for a new orphanage in Romania.

The film is a full-length version of his starring role in the New York production of *Hamlet*, which was staged in 1964. Burton intended to place it on general release after the New York run but then changed his mind because of the possibility of more stage work.

The film, three and a half hours long, was discovered by his widow Sally when she moved out of the former family home in Switzerland. She mentioned it to Burton's family in Wales and agreed to it being shown for the first time in his homeland, where he never appeared on stage after achieving Hollywood success.

The premiere, which will take place in Cardiff on November 10, which would have been Burton's 60th birthday, is being organised by his niece, Stan Owen, a successful TV actor.

She said: "I have seen a video version of it and it is a really great performance. Apparently it had originally been intended for release but for various reasons that never happened. Uncle Richard

didn't want it shown during his lifetime when he was still considering stage work."

Support for the premiere has already come in the form of cash donations from actors including Sir John Gielgud and Anthony Hopkins.

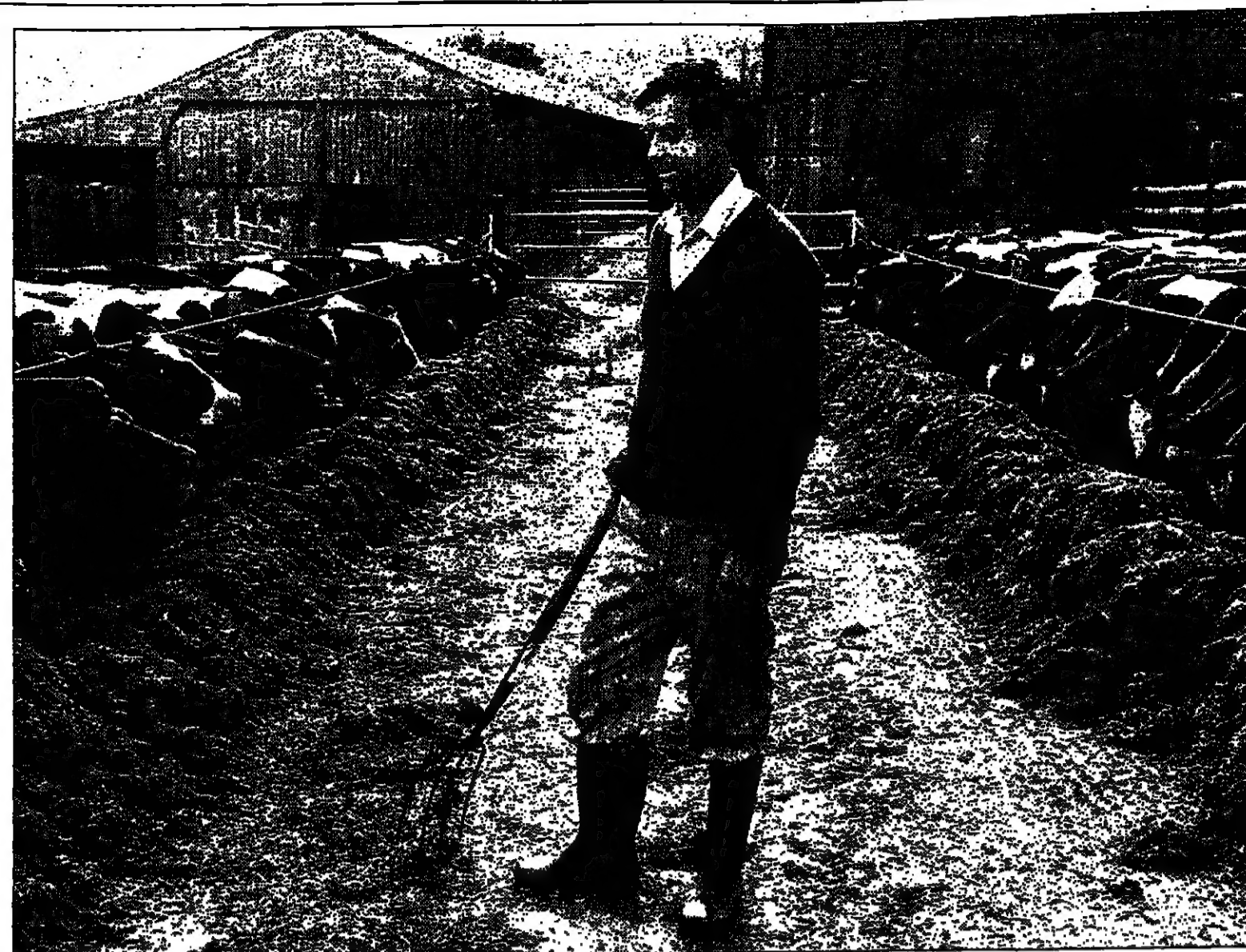
The evening, arranged by the Romanian Orphanage Ap-



Sally Burton: found film after her husband's death

peal Fund in Wales, will be attended by Princess Helen of Romania, who lives in Britain.

The Cardiff-based appeal hopes to raise £100,000 to assist in the building of a new orphanage in Vaslui, where the original orphanage was destroyed by an earthquake. The fund also intends to provide long-term support by setting up a full training and education programme.



Forking out: Geoff Goodman, who was told that an organic farm might make him an extra £10,000 a year, but would cost £40,000 to achieve

## Farmer counts the cost of going organic

Michael Hornsby reports on a family that had every intention of converting their farm to organic production, but who found that the process is only for the very rich or the very committed

THE Prince of Wales's forthcoming book on organic farming will have to be unusually persuasive if he hopes to change the minds of the Goodman family, who own and rent 357 acres of pasture and arable land in the wooded hills around Great Witley, Worcestershire. If he cannot make converts of such sympathetic folk as the Goodmans, his cause would seem lost.

Geoff Goodman, who runs the farm with his wife, Judy, son, Andrew, and one full-time employee, would be happy to farm less intensively. But, unlike the prince, he is not a rich landowner who can afford to indulge a hobby.

Earlier this year, the family called in a consultant to advise on the feasibility of converting to organic methods. "The notion that you can reduce output, so putting less pressure on land and livestock, and make a better profit than before, is seductive and we had been

thinking about the organic option for some time," Mr Goodman said.

At present the Goodmans have a dairy herd of 145 cows, 63 beef cattle, 237 acres of permanent and temporary pasture and 120 acres of wheat, barley and fodder crops. Mrs Goodman also runs a free-range flock of 1,800 geese.

Under the consultants' blueprint, the Goodmans would have concentrated on producing milk and cereals. The beef cattle would have gone, leaving more pasture for the dairy herd. The acreage now under barley and fodder feed would have been turned over to wheat and oats.

Only farmyard manure would have been permitted as fertiliser. To maintain fertility, the Goodmans would have had to rely on crop rotation, which in turn would have entailed re-seeding up to 200 acres with a clover-rich grass to "fix" nitrogen in the soil. No chemical pesticides would have been allowed.

At least 80 per cent of the cows' feed would have had to be organically grown. Veterinary drugs would have been allowed if animals fell ill, but there would have been a ban on the routine use of antibiotics to prevent infections.

Cereal yields, it was calculated, would have fallen from 3 to 1.8 metric tons an acre and milk yields from

6,000 to 5,300 litres per cow. This fall in output however would have been more than offset by the assumed higher price of organic produce — 22.2p a litre for milk (compared with 18.3p for non-organic) and £220 a ton for cereals (as against £112).

Money would have been saved on fertilisers, chemicals and drugs, but feed-stuffs, fuel and machinery maintenance would have cost more. A second full-time farmhand might have been needed. Still, the bottom line looked quite good: once the farm was running as an organic unit, the family could expect a net income of £29,700 a year, £10,000 more than now. The snag was how to get there.

The Goodmans were told they would need to spend £40,000 on re-seeding pasture, on extra storage for grain and manure and on new machinery for spreading muck and weeding unsprayed fields. More worrying was the estimate

that full organic status might take five years to achieve. During that time, farm output would be falling without the compensation of higher prices.

"We simply did not see how we could contemplate these risks and costs, particularly when we are already paying £17,850 a year in rent and interest on bank loans. I was also not persuaded that the market premium for organic produce would always be there. Frankly, milk is about as natural a commodity as you can get, however you produce it."

The Goodmans' doubts seem to be widely shared. So far no more than 800 of Britain's 250,000 farmers have gone fully organic, despite the active promotion by supermarkets of a small, but growing, demand for organic food. Without significant government aid, conversion to organic farming is likely to be for the very rich or the ideologically committed.

## Irish army dismisses soldier

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Irish army confirmed yesterday that a soldier has been dismissed for allegedly passing on security information to the Provisional IRA.

In a statement, the army said a joint investigation was launched with the police several weeks ago into the alleged abuse of what it called information of a "restricted short-term nature".

The soldier was subsequently discharged and may face criminal charges. The army said a review of security procedures specific to the area of the soldier's employment was nearing completion.

This is the second similar incident in the republic in less than a month. A policeman from Co Cork is on £30,000 bail awaiting trial on charges under the Official Secrets Act. Denis Kelly, aged 28, from Mallow, is charged with imparting information on police operations to an unnamed party, prejudicial to the security and preservation of the state.

□ Hugh Annesley, chief constable of the RUC, yesterday disclosed that he had set up a confidential telephone helpline to encourage Northern Ireland businessmen to report the activities of racketeers.

Mr Annesley, speaking in a radio interview, also said that following a recent advertising campaign enquiries from potential Catholic recruits to the RUC had increased from about ten a month to nineteen. Catholics constitute about 8 per cent of the almost 13,000-strong force.

Surveying security in the province, Mr Annesley highlighted the increased proficiency of loyalist paramilitaries, he said their activities were largely reactive to republican violence. The IRA still posed the greatest threat, he said.

He described relations between the RUC and the army with the Irish forces in border areas as excellent.



Sailors' sale: Charles Berry, a boat equipment dealer, examining a propeller offered at £85 at a nautical jumble sale at Chatham Historic Dockyard, Kent

## Cost of living cheaper than a year ago, says survey

By PAUL WILKINSON

WORKERS could maintain their present living standards on 3.5 per cent less money than a year ago, according to a new survey of salary levels. In fact, wages have risen by almost 9 per cent over the past 12 months.

The report, by the market research company Reward, says that the cost of living has been reduced by the combined effects of lower interest rates, which have fallen 3.45 per cent since August last year, a 2.4 per cent fall in house prices and the cut in poll tax.

"Whichever way one looks at it, most people in employment who have a mortgage are better off than they were a year ago," the survey says, and it suggests that a consumer boom could result.

"Once they have repaired the financial damage caused earlier, and if they are confident about continued employment, they will start to increase spending in the run up to Christmas. This may cause a run on imports, but it is an essential ingredient in halting the increase in unemployment." The report also shows that pound for pound Northern Ireland is the cheapest place to live. In the South-East of England a pound buys the least. Reward has created a

quality of life index for the regions. The average regional salary of a middle manager is compared with the national average.

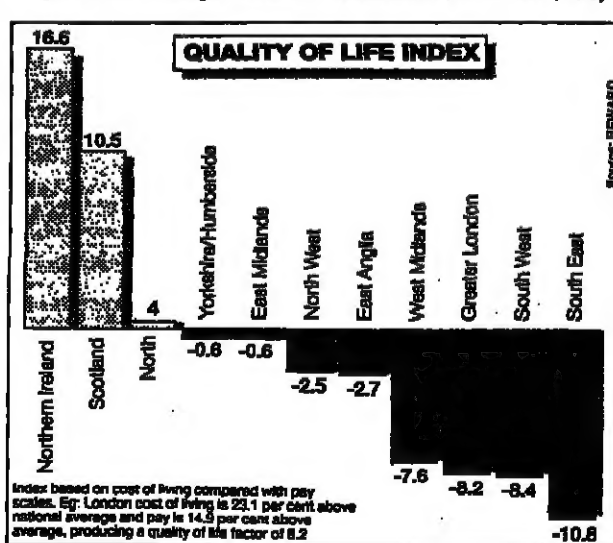
Similarly, the regional cost of living average is compared with the national average. One is subtracted from the other to produce Reward's quality of life index. The South-East has the lowest rating with a factor of -10.8 while Northern Ireland has the highest at +16.6.

The survey also shows that, in spite of an average increase

in council house rents of 13.3 per cent, housing costs have dropped 17.2 per cent since August last year.

However, Reward's consumer price index shows, excluding housing and direct taxation, an annual rise of 9.5 per cent. The report says it indicates the underlying rate of inflation is still too high.

Reward UK Regional Cost of Living Report September 1991 (Reward House, Diamond Way, Stone Business Park, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0SD; £90)



## Benefits for wives 'too costly'

Married women with no personal income could be paid a basic social security benefit independently of their husbands' income, according to the Policy Studies Institute.

However a study published today concludes that, although it would be equitable for married couples to claim existing benefits as though they were single, no government would be willing to commit itself to the cost, equivalent to a tax increase of 7p in the pound.

The study it concludes that, for an increase of 1p in the pound, a number of benefit options could be made available, paying around £20 a week, without regard to marital status.

## Killings claim

Scotland Yard is trying to verify a man's claims that he killed two women in Brixton, south London, last month. The man, aged 43, was being held on remand in connection with an alleged violent crime.

## Body washed up

The body of Anthony Barnes, aged 50, swept off a pier in South Shields, Tyne and Wear, in last week's storms has been washed ashore.

## Impaled on train

An inter-city train arrived at a station with a man's body impaled on the engine. Darren Sims, aged 24, of Rossington, South Yorkshire, was believed to have stood in front of the train after a tiff with his girl friend.

## Nailing a record

John Cassar, of Brisley, Norfolk, aims to set a world record in Lincoln this week by having 15,000 people walk over him while he lies on a bed of nails.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bonds prize draw: £100,000, number 22KZ 007964 (value of holding £744, winner from Hampshire); £50,000, 187P 242916 (£10,000, Essex); £25,000, 17TW 275527 (£6,396, Staffordshire).

## Disputed castle grounds open on eve of golf enquiry

By CRAIG SETON

A PUBLIC enquiry is to open tomorrow into plans for a hotel and country club with two 18-hole golf courses on Warwick Castle Park, which conservationists describe as being among the finest of English landscape parks.

Opponents of the proposed £40 million golf development are to claim that it will spoil a historically important landscape, listed grade one on the English Heritage register of parks and gardens, and damage views from Warwick Castle, one of Britain's most visited stately homes.

Yesterday members of the

public were given access to the 690-acre grounds for the first time since the park was landscaped, almost 250 years ago. Several hundred Warwick residents were allowed in by David Newling Ward, the park's owner, to see what his plans entail.

The park, incorporating woodland, a 20-acre lake and a hunting lodge, was part designed by Capability Brown and it was his first private assignment when he began landscape work there in 1749. It has been closed to the public ever since. The grounds were sold separately when Warwick Castle was bought by Madame

Tussauds, the leisure group, more than a decade ago.

Mr Newling Ward bought the park from a local farmer for over £5 million. He is due to tell the public enquiry, at Leamington Spa town hall, that his development is the best way to restore the park to some of its former glory after years of neglect and give limited public access across footpaths. He has pledged to create a 100-acre deer park in the grounds, so as to enhance the view from the castle, and to site the hotel and country club a mile from the castle to make it less visually intrusive.

Tomorrow's enquiry comes after 18 months of dispute about the proposal. Conservation bodies and amenity groups are to give evidence opposing the scheme. Mr Newling Ward will call experts in architecture, ecology and landscape history to demonstrate his keenness to retain many landscape features.

Peter Storrie, a planning consultant, is to oppose the plan for the Warwickshire branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, the Warwick Society and the Friends of Warwick Castle Park. He said: "We believe this development will damage the character and appearance

of this listed park. The benefits would not balance or outweigh the permanent harm to this nationally important site in a conservation area."

David Lambert, of the Garden History Society, has described the park as "among the very best of England's landscape parks, comparable to Blenheim".

Warwick district council supports Mr Newling Ward's plan in principle, subject to safeguards. English Heritage is due to give evidence at the enquiry but it is not disclosed what view it is due to express. Mr Newling Ward said that millions of pounds were

needed to restore the park and that that was unlikely to be achieved without some form of commercial development. Virtually nothing of Capability Brown's design was left.

Warwick Castle's administrators had been supportive, Mr Newling Ward said. He added: "They are very realistic and realise it is the only suitable proposal for the estate. The golf courses will be kept well away from the castle."

The plan would create more than 250 jobs and bring £5 million a year to the local economy. If it went ahead, local people would be given access to park footpaths.

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## Gorbachev seeks to salvage viability of new parliament

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

WITH the inter-republic economic treaty finally under his belt, President Gorbachev will today try to shore up what remains of central legislative authority when the restructured Soviet parliament convenes for its autumn session.

Yesterday, however, as deputies arrived in the Kremlin to register their participation, it emerged that only seven of the 12 Soviet republics would be represented, raising doubts about whether the parliament would be able to function.

The legislature was not the only central institution whose ability to do its job was called into question. The weekend also offered evidence that the centre's hold on defence and

foreign policy, and even — despite Friday's economic treaty — on economic policy, was slipping.

The opening of the autumn parliamentary session, originally scheduled for October 2, was twice postponed in the hope that more republics would agree to take part. Last week, however, the steering committee decided to proceed regardless. The absence of the Ukraine in particular will leave Russia with such an overwhelming majority that the other delegates could soon decide that there is no point in turning up.

Under legislation passed by the Soviet Congress of People's Deputies last month, the

central parliament has been restructured and will comprise two chambers which will operate for the most part separately. The upper chamber, the new Chamber of the Republics, will be smaller than its predecessor, the Chamber of Nationalities, and in both chambers deputies are now directly mandated from their republics. This reverses the previous structure where members of the union parliament were directly elected, and where the central parliament handed down decisions to the republics.

Little else is known about how the new parliament will operate and much appears to have been left to deputies to decide. Andrei Sebensov, from the steering committee, said last week, for instance, that it would be up to deputies to decide whether to elect a chairman or to work by consensus. The former chairman, Anatoli Lukyanov, is currently in custody charged with involvement in the failed August coup. In the absence of a chairman, proceedings are to be opened by the oldest deputy present.

In the republics, a conflict has already emerged about how far the new parliament should perform a central, co-ordinating function and how far its members should represent the interests of their republics. On Saturday, the acting chairman of the Russian parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, left Russian deputies in no doubt about what was required of them, urging them to remember that they represented the interests of Russians and work hard to protect "the rights of our compatriots as well as the economic, political and cultural interests of the Russian Federation in the emerging community". Many republics' parliaments, especially the Russian, harbour suspicions of any central institution, even if it consists entirely of delegates mandated by the republics.

Over the weekend weaknesses appeared also in other areas of central control. The publication of the economic treaty showed how little central economic authority remains and how little agreement the eight signatories had managed to reach on the specifics of future relations.

Marshal Yevgeni Shaposhnikov, the defence minister, raised the spectre of disintegration in the Soviet armed forces, talking on Soviet television about the risks if the republics insisted on carving up the army and dividing up its weapons. Grasping at the modicum of common interest that remains among the former Soviet republics, he called for the formation of a defence union, to be structured on lines similar to those of the now defunct Warsaw Pact.

## Yeltsin to sign Volga accord

Moscow — Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, will sign an agreement in Germany next month outlining the final terms for re-establishing an autonomous ethnic German homeland in Russia's Volga region, Tass said.

The news agency said Mr Yeltsin had told representatives of most of the country's two million ethnic Germans that he was ready to re-establish the Volga homeland by a decree after final problems had been resolved.

Ethnic Germans settled in the Volga area of southern Russia in the 18th century. In 1924, the Soviet government created a German autonomous republic there, but after the Nazi invasion of 1941 Stalin banished them to Kazakhstan and Kirgizia.

Bonn hopes that re-establishment of the homeland could slow emigration of ethnic Germans to Germany. Moscow is eager to retain a community with farming skills. (Reuters)

## Hot off the press

Brussels — The first Sunday newspaper in Belgium, *Dimanche Matin*, has been launched with the gimmick of being sold nationwide beside hot croissants, pastries and bread in bakeries, which lure Belgians in swarms before they take breakfast on their day of rest. (Reuters)

## Yesterday's man

Tirana — An ultra-modern museum in Tirana which was dedicated to Enver Hoxha, the Albanian dictator who died in 1985, was reopened as an international culture centre. The pyramid-shaped concrete and glass building cost Europe's poorest country £32 million when it went up in 1988. (Reuters)

## Ukraine to set up army

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

THE Soviet Army in the Ukraine is to be phased out over the next three years and replaced by a 400,000-strong republic force, the Ukraine parliament has decided as part of a series of bills to create Ukrainian armed forces independent of Soviet control.

The legislation, which was drafted despite opposition from Moscow and senior ranks in the army, contradicts the Ukraine's recent undertaking to become a nuclear-free state by agreeing to the siting of strategic and nuclear missiles on Ukrainian soil. For the present, the republic will abide by the authority of the central strategic command and contribute to the building and funding of the Soviet Union's strategic force to "maintain the status quo".

The authorities here are clearly nervous about their plans. Only five units based in the Ukraine have openly declared their loyalty to the republic rather than to the Soviet Union. To stem opposition, the "concept bill" on the armed forces which was passed by parliament last Friday included ample — and expensive — social provision for troops, including increased tax, housing and holiday allowances and job guarantees on retirement.

In deference to the central command structures, the Ukrainian government will not yet propose alternative plans for the Soviet navy's Black Sea fleet, which is based at Sevastopol in the Crimea.

● BBC addition: The World Service of the BBC will begin broadcasting in Ukrainian early next year. The service will be the first to the Soviet Union in a language other than Russian. (AP)



Class warfare: a Georgian girl at Zsauri, in the South Ossetia region, which opposes Georgia's independence from Moscow, going to school armed with her father's double-barrelled shotgun to fend off any attacks from South Ossetians

## Croats reopen key road on Dalmatia coast

FROM DOUGLAS HAMILTON IN PAG

APART from two dozen roadblocks, a detour by camouflaged ferry and a bridge with a hole in the middle, Yugoslavia's beautiful Dalmatian coast road is now effectively open, providing a lifeline for the rebel republic of Croatia in its war with the Serbian-led federal army.

Tankers, lorries and trailers snake endlessly along the winding highway between barren mountains and the Adriatic. "This is the only road there is. If you go left, you're in the sea. If you go right, into the mountains, you'd be looking for trouble," a Croatian guide said. Including a 30-mile detour over the island of Pag, a drive north on the 225-mile road from the port of Split to Rijeka takes more than nine hours, not least because of the regular checks by soldiers at sandbagged roadblocks. The road over Pag, a lunar landscape of stone, was substituted for the mainland highway after federal army forces captured Pag bridge further south, cutting the usual route.

But the Yugoslav air force failed to destroy a second bridge to Pag, which runs high over a narrow sea channel. "There were four air attacks on the bridge," Reno Sinovic, aged 30, a Croat guard, said. "They shot about 17 rockets but only three hit the bridge and only one made a hole." The gap affects only one lane. The other remains open and still carries vital fuel supplies. At the northern end

of Pag, the supply lorries queue by the dozen to board the Saint Jure, a modern roll-on, roll-off ferry. "Two weeks ago, it was a beautiful white ship," said one regular passenger. But Yugoslav planes fired on the ferry and it is now daubed battleship grey, with splashes of green.

At irregular intervals on the mainland highway, at junctions among olive groves or on blind bends where a column could be halted, Croatian national guard forces armed with Kalashnikov assault rifles man anti-tank chicanes. At one fresh detour, a bathtub blocks the road and a very young man in jeans directs traffic. Parts of the route vary by the day or hour, depending on the activities of the Yugoslav army or of Serbian guerrilla snipers.

Part of the road, near Nin, is little more than a dirt track through fields. In a forested stretch close to a zone where Serbian forces operate, Croat soldiers search the ground around a Renault car which has slowed off the road, its windscreen shattered. At the port of Zadar, tall blocks of flats are pock-marked by heavy machinegun fire and holed by shells. Resort hotels in Biograd, Crikvenica, Vodic and Trogir are empty of tourists, and the rooms occupied by refugees from the war zones in eastern and western Slavonia. (Reuters)

Perilous journey, page 1

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## WARSAW NOTEBOOK by Roger Boyes

### Squeaky mouse image gets Mrs Walesa's goat

Poland's equivalent of *Sputing Image*, called *Polski Zoo* and starring politicians as animals, has hurt Danuta, President Walesa's wife, by depicting her as a squeaking mouse. The former Solidarity chief is represented as a yellow lion with atrocious grammar, but the word from the palace is that he is not offended.

Even so, as the Polish election campaign heats up, the knives are out for the Polish leader. His kitchen cabinet is now led by Mieczyslaw Wachowski, a former taxi driver. He is the only one authorised to wake the president at night. During daytime naps, the president can be woken by other members of the curious team, including his influential confessor, Father Francis Zekebyula. This is all proving too much for the media, which is accusing the president of excluding political brains, or indeed any brains, from the inner circle.

Ordinary Poles, meanwhile, complain that the large presidential family is getting out of hand. One son was stopped by police and found to be drunk in charge of a bicycle. Mr Walesa denied reports that two of his sons were put on the payroll of a private Polish company.

And Warsaw residents are wondering why Mrs

Walesa has not yet moved to the Polish capital. The reason, it appears, is that she wants to keep her daughter at a Cidansk ballet school. In her experience, political careers are shorter than those on the stage.

After decades on the Communist black list, John Le Carré's *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* is about to appear in a dramatised version on



Le Carré: spy author in from the cold the Warsaw stage. Called *Spy*, the play is directed by Jerzy Matulowski, who is battling to get together the necessary Cold War props.

For one scene he needs a copy of the *Daily Worker*, but has been unable so far to find even a *Morning Star*. But his real complaint is that, for every performance — and he hopes the play will run through the

winter — he has to pay Le Carré, or his representatives, a fee of £150. Coming at a time when theatres are closing throughout Eastern Europe, this is a big imposition. The price of freedom, perhaps.

Dogs live dangerously in the east. Living standards for people in the western Soviet republics are falling fast and black markets are thriving. Hence the thousands of traders who cross the Soviet-Polish border every weekend to coin a few pounds.

Now the Ukrainians have stumbled on a new way to raise cash: pet smuggling. In Lvov, in the western Ukraine, a poodle or a dachshund can be bought for less than £20. But across the border mongrels go for more than that, while pedigree puppies fetch anything from £120. Pedigree cats cost about £100, and goats are about £20.

The Soviet smugglers have to dodge the Polish sanitary inspectors and so drug the animals, tucking them close to the spare wheel of their battered cars as they cross the frontier. Animal rights activists, led by the scions of the Polish aristocracy, are up in arms, as are Polish vets who are having to perform emergency operations on dozens of smuggled Soviet poodles every week.



## Commonwealth communiqué

## Harare declaration marks turning point

FROM ROBIN OAKLEY IN HARARE

THE Commonwealth yesterday committed itself anew to the fostering of democratic principles, human rights and the rule of law.

In what appeared to be a significant success for John Major, who had opened last week's discussions with a call for the Commonwealth to commit itself to "good government", the leaders agreed to a new declaration of aims which enshrines those principles. It also pledges the 50 Commonwealth nations, representing a third of the

earth's population, to recognise the central role of the market economy.

In rather more cautious words, clearly the result of substantial negotiation, it introduces the concept of tying economic aid from the developed countries to the human rights record of the countries which receive it.

The Harare Declaration, as it will be called, replaces the previous definition of Commonwealth principles agreed in Singapore in 1971 and calls for democracy and

institutions "which reflect national circumstances, the rule of law and independence of the judiciary and just and honest government".

Some African nations, notably Kenya where President Moi has been criticised for interference with the judiciary, are understood to have insisted on the reference to national circumstances. The document calls for the recognition of fundamental human rights, including "equal rights and opportunities for all citizens, regardless of race, colour, creed or political beliefs".

The declaration supports the equality of women, calls for universal access to education and the promotion of sustainable development and the alleviation of poverty. In a specific reference to the question of South Africa, which has for so long dominated Commonwealth affairs, it calls for continued action to bring about the end of apartheid and the establishment of a free, democratic non-racial and prosperous South Africa.

The reference to the need for prosperity recognises Mr Major's constant argument through the summit that investment sanctions against South Africa should be lifted because the country's population is growing at three per cent a year while economic growth is nil. The declaration calls for the Commonwealth to practice "sound economic management recognising the central role of the market economy".

It urges the freest possible flow of multilateral trade, taking account of the special requirements of developing countries, for an adequate flow of resources to such countries and the development of such human resources as education, training, health, culture and sport.

In one key passage the document talks about "extending the benefits of development within a framework of respect for human rights". In its restrained language this recognises the urgings from Britain and other developed Commonwealth countries that the provision of aid should be linked to the quality of a recipient's democracy and adherence to the rule of law.

## UK presses on sanctions issue

FROM ROBIN OAKLEY IN HARARE

EFFORTS by the Commonwealth heads of government to phrase a final communiqué which would prevent Britain from entering an official objection appeared yesterday to have failed.

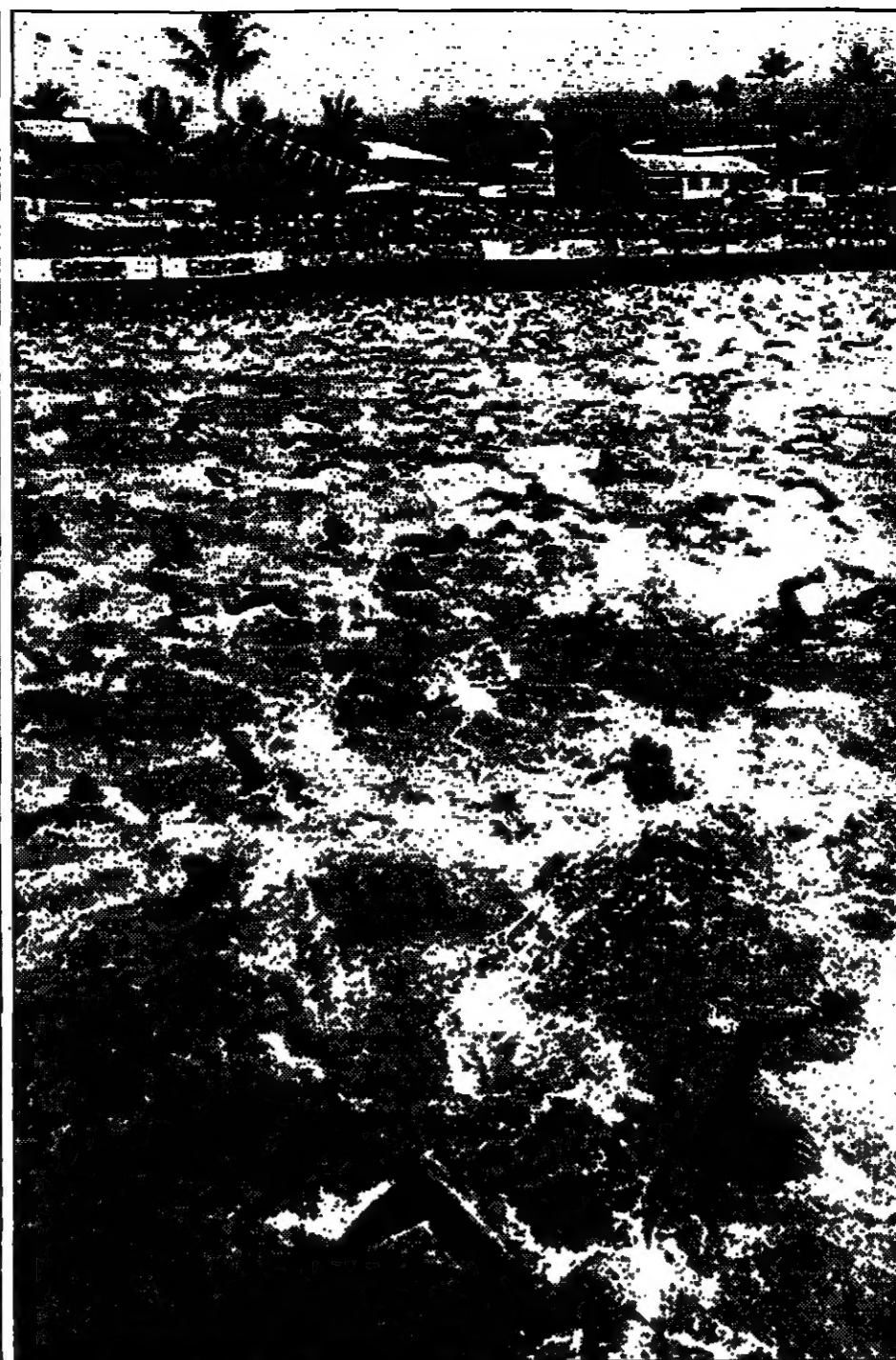
During the weekend retreat to Victoria Falls Commonwealth leaders, anxious to present a unanimously agreed communiqué to mark their most harmonious summit for years, offered concessions to the British point of view. The draft communiqué tried to reflect John Major's argument that there was an urgent need for early investment in South Africa, where only 12 young blacks in every 100 find jobs at present. But British officials said yesterday that there was still too much emphasis on continuing sanctions, reflecting the report of Commonwealth foreign ministers under Canada's Barbara McDougall.

Although the leaders were said to be in relaxed mood during their visit to the falls and a cruise on the Zambezi there was a sharp clash in one bilateral meeting when Mr Major warned President Moi of Kenya that he was undermining his country's reputation abroad by his human rights record at home. The president is understood to have countered with some heat that the British should not seek to fawn Westminister models on African countries

with different cultures. Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth secretary-general, confirmed last night that, following consultations with Pretoria, the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress, he will leave shortly for a fact-finding mission in South Africa.

The heads of government yesterday welcomed the fact that South Africa was within sight of the goal of non-racial democracy but expressed their concern at the escalation of violence and its possible effect on the negotiation process. Chief Anyaoku will report back, specifically on questions of township violence and policing practices, to eleven Commonwealth heads of government - the ten previous members of the high-level action group plus President Magabe of Zimbabwe, and they will consider what follow-up action should be taken.

Chief Anyaoku's mission was complicated yesterday by an apparent worsening in the tension between the two sides in South Africa. Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, accused President de Klerk of bad faith. Joe Modise, commander of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the ANC's military wing, said: "De Klerk is cheating. Yes, he is cheating. He is behind the violence in the townships. The police and the army are both involved."



Splash and dash: some 1,400 athletes swimming in the Hawaii Ironman Triathlon endurance test at Kona. They also faced a 112-mile bicycle ride and a marathon

## Khmer hardmen arrive

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN SITE 8, THAI-CAMBODIAN BORDER

THE Khmer Rouge commander known as Mit (code name) Nykon came into this vast refugee camp just inside Thailand and was appalled when he saw Cambodians under Khmer Rouge control reading Western newspapers and "decadent" Western books.

He snatched a book from one refugee and flung it aside with a snarl, said a relief worker.

Late last month, the commander, who operates on the Cambodian side of the border near here, suddenly changed

there are many land mines in that area and malaria," said a woman. "I want to go back to my old home in Cambodia and find my family."

For the past two weeks foreign relief agency officials have stayed overnight in the camp, patrolling the labyrinthine alleys after dark to make sure no forced removals were attempted. "It would be so easy for 200 armed Khmer Rouge to come in at night and drive the people across the border," said one official.

A senior Khmer Rouge official said the commander was not acting on the leadership's orders. By yesterday the situation seemed more relaxed, though people are still nervous. A UN official said: "We think the problem is not necessarily over and we will continue to monitor the situation closely."

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## 500 die as quake hits India

FROM AFP IN DELHI

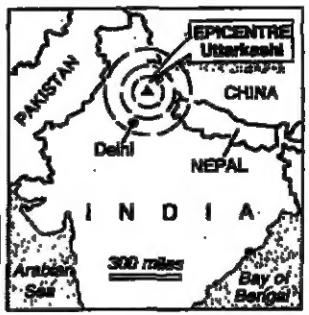
A POWERFUL earthquake shook northern India yesterday, killing at least 500 people and injuring more than 3,000 others in the Himalayan foothills, officials and news reports said. The Press Trust of India said officials confirmed 274 deaths in Uttar Pradesh state, but added that more than 500 people were reportedly killed by the 5.5-second tremor in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Uttar Pradesh revenue minister, Bramhdeo Dwivedi, said in the state capital Lucknow that he believed 500 people "could have perished in such a big earthquake". State-run television said the tremor, which measured 6.1 on the open-ended Richter scale, left thousands homeless in the state's Uttar Kashi and Chamoli districts, which border Tibet.

The television said at least 1,000 people were injured in the two districts, and huge landslides blocked the flow of the Ganges River, sparking threats of flash floods in the region. In Delhi, the prime minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, called the earthquake a "national disaster" as the Indian Army, Air Force and paramilitary forces were put on full alert for relief work in Uttar Pradesh.

"No words can express the grief and sufferings of those who have lost their kith and kin and have suffered damage to their property," Mr Rao said. "My heart goes out to all the victims of this national disaster." Television said almost 90 per cent of the houses in parts of Uttar Kashi had collapsed. News reports said the tremor caused a three-hour blackout in the hill state of Himachal Pradesh, and minor damage to houses and buildings in Delhi and the states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Kashmir.

In Delhi and across scores of towns in north India, panicky residents fled into the streets as the earthquake shook houses and buildings, rattling windows and doors. A senior seismologist, S. Chatrvedi, said it was the worst earthquake to hit Delhi in recent memory.



## Mobutu wants to replace premier

Kinshasa - President Mobutu of Zaire said yesterday that he wanted to sack Etienne Tshisekedi, his prime minister, and replace him with another candidate named by opposition parties. The pronouncement threw Zaire's already despairing political situation deeper into turmoil.

"I am the one who named him against my better judgment," the president, aged 61, told supporters aboard the presidential yacht, Kamanjola, moored near the riot-devastated capital.

Mr Tshisekedi, a strong-willed and longtime Mobutu opponent who recently referred to the president as a "human monster", was named prime minister after riots four weeks ago which left at least 250 people dead and wrecked Kinshasa and several provincial cities.

On Saturday, Mr Tshisekedi was locked out of his office by pro-Mobutu troops. The prime minister vowed to return today with supporters to force his way in. (Reuters)

## Renamo accord

London - Renamo rebels and the Mozambique government have agreed on a blueprint for peace which could end a war which has claimed up to one million lives. Central to the agreement, signed in Rome, is a rebel commitment to cease guerrilla attacks once a ceasefire is agreed and act as a political opposition.

## Biko apology

Johannesburg - Fourteen years after the death of Steve Biko, the black activist, Dr Benjamin Tucker, has apologised to the South African Medical and Dental Council for failing to provide treatment that might have saved his life. As a result, his licence to practise, lost at the time, has been reinstated. (AP)

## Apartheid talks

Johannesburg - A delegation of American activists began a tour of South African townships and meetings with black leaders to assess progress in apartheid reforms. The 30-member "Democracy Now Tour" was led by the musician Quincy Jones, and the black activist, Randall Robinson. (Reuters)

## Drawing the line

Nairobi - More than 300 Ugandans armed with guns and spears were intercepted by Kenyan security forces when they attempted to cross the border into Kenya, officials here said. They gave no details of the identity of the Ugandans. The Uganda army recently stepped up operations against guerrillas. (Reuters)

## Louisiana opts for extremism

Voters of America's 'banana republic' have surpassed even their own tradition of outlandish politics, writes Martin Fletcher from New Orleans.

IN ONE of the most chilling sights in modern American politics, a thousand or more blue-collar whites punched the air with their fists, exuberantly granted their leader's one-syllable name like some primitive tribal chant, and bayed deliriously for David Duke, the one-time Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard, neo-Nazi and white supremacist.

The scene was at a convention centre on the edge of New Orleans early yesterday morning. Louisiana, the banana republic of the United States, had just surpassed even its own tradition of outlandish politics by send Mr Duke, a man with a long record of extremism, into the November 16 run-off for the governorship.

Suckers for larger-than-life personalities and Mardi Gras politics, Louisiana's voters had pitted him against Edwin Edwards, a Democrat and a roguish bon vivant, high-stakes gambler and boastful womaniser who had faced no less than 16 corruption investigations during three previous terms as governor. They had thrown out Buddy Roemer, the present incumbent, an earnest technocrat who had spent four years striving honestly if ineffectually to reform a state government which is seen as being rotten to the core.

"My greatest nightmare, loving this state, would be for us to have an election in which we would have to choose between David Duke and Edwin Edwards," Mr Roemer said last Friday. "I don't want Louisiana roped off or fenced in from the rest of the nation."

The results of Friday's primaries will indeed have repercussions well beyond Louisiana's boundaries. Mr Roemer had in March become the first sitting gov-

ernor in recent times to switch parties, moving from the Democrats to the Republicans. President Bush had done his utmost to support him in this race. His defeat badly damages the emerging White House strategy of seeking to realign the south by converting conservative Democratic office holders.

The smooth, blow-dried, face-lifted, telegenic Mr Duke meanwhile goes from strength to strength with his championing of "white European Christian culture", his coded racist attacks on a "rising welfare

under-class" that spawns drugs, crime and unwanted babies, and his denunciation of affirmative action programmes that do down hardworking whites.

In the style of a latter-day George Wallace, he has tapped a vein of white fear and resentment with stunning success. Nationwide he could spawn a flood of imitators on the sympathetic Republican right, but how will Mr Bush and his fellow Republican party leaders condemn them without surrendering their own subtler but electorally potent race card? Mr Bush, with the next presidential campaign looming, has deliberately kept alive the racial quotas issue.

Louisiana voters must now decide between Mr Duke and Mr Edwards, who received 32 and 34 per cent respectively of Saturday's vote. The 27 per cent of voters - the well educated and better off - who supported Mr Roemer will mostly switch to Mr Edwards to keep out Mr Duke, but will do so with extreme reluctance.

Mr Edwards, aged 64, is a populist in the tradition of the demagogic Huey Long, Louisiana's celebrated pre-war governor. During his last governorship he was twice tried and acquitted on corruption charges, prosecutors revealing that he had lost \$2 million (£1.2 million) at the gaming tables. Divorced in 1989, he has campaigned in this election with a girlfriend, aged 26, on his arm and revels in his rakish image. Only "a dead girl or a live boy in my bed" could keep him from



Duke: blow-dried, smooth and face-lifted

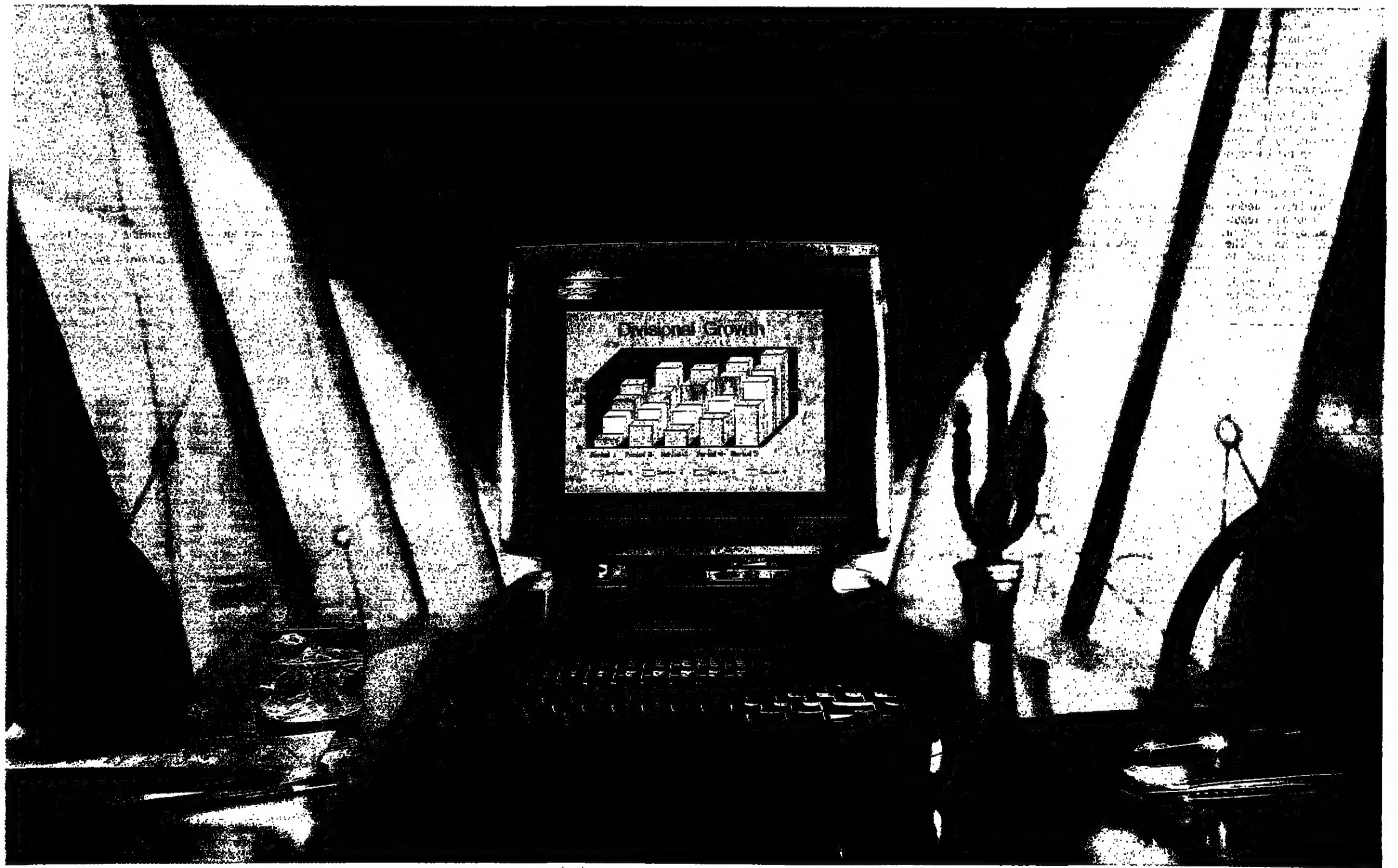


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# Spirit of 1977 fails to materialise as gloom descends



Levy: Syrian counterpart refuses to shake hands

AFTER 43 years of mutual hostility and five wars, the Arabs and Israelis are preparing to sit down and talk peace. But in the Middle East there is no sign of that frisson of hope sparked by President Sadat's flight to Jerusalem in November 1977.

Instead, the mood in both camps is anxious and gloomy, with expectations low and signs that hardline positions are being entrenched. It was summed up yesterday by a cartoon in the semi-official Cairo newspaper, *Al-Gomhouriya*, which contained a crude caricature of Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's prime minister. "Yes, I will attend the talks," he is saying. "However, I will not allow any negotiations to be initiated on the future of Jerusalem, Gaza, the West Bank or the Golan Heights."

The Israeli attitude to what the chief peace-maker, James Baker, the American

Expectation of failure exceeds the wildest hopes for peace as Arabs and Israelis prepare for the Madrid talks, writes Christopher Walker from Cairo

Secretary of State, has called the magic words "land for peace" contrasts sharply with the reply given when Menachem Begin was asked by one of the 1977 middlemen, the late Nicolae Ceausescu, whether he would make concessions if Sadat agreed to visit the holy city. "Definitely," the then Israeli prime minister pledged. Whereas on that occasion the imagination of the world was fired, the overriding impression this time is that both Jews and Arabs are being dragged kicking and screaming to a peace conference, more because they do not want — or cannot afford — to upset the United

States, than because of any feeling of reconciliation. Not only did Sinai, which was eventually returned in full to Egypt, not have the emotional or security pull for Israelis of the West Bank or the Golan Heights, but the personalities now involved are very different from Sadat and Begin. During the Egyptian leader's momentous visit to Jerusalem, the two men hit it off. They sometimes walked hand in hand, called each other "friend", and gave currency to the phrase "No more war."

Such warmth is unlikely in Madrid. As Farouk al-Sharaa, the Syrian foreign minister, said in a moment

of straight talking last Wednesday, he would not even contemplate shaking the hand of his counterpart, David Levy — ironically one of the most pro-conference members in the Israeli cabinet. "This very hand that you would like me to shake is very guilty," he said. "It is a hand which occupies our lands, ignores the Palestinian national rights and, for the last decades, we have been suffering from this constant occupation."

His suspicions are shared in Israel where doubts about what can be achieved spread beyond the extreme right. Even if, against expectations, Israel agrees to surrender land under pressure from Washington, the conference will begin without any Arab assurances that Israel would get the peace treaties it seeks in exchange. "The Syrians believe that the Israelis want peace for peace, and the

Israelis believe the Syrians want territory for non-belligerency. And I am not going to sit here and tell you, before they get together and negotiate, that we have already changed their positions," remarked a senior member of the Baker party after the conference announcement. The atmosphere in which the expectation of failure overshadows hope has been reinforced by the state of the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli treaty, the only one of its kind. Known throughout the region as "the cold peace", it has been a document without underlying friendship under which Egypt has remained ashamed of its few Israeli links. These have been drastically short of the expectations originally held in Jerusalem. Egypt feels that the Israelis exploited it to wage war on the Palestinians in Lebanon in 1982, and to crush the Palestinian intifada

which erupted in December 1987. The mutual distrust which 12 years of peace have done little to eradicate was illustrated yesterday by a hapless Japanese tourist wandering through the dusty streets of Cairo with his luggage, vainly hunting for the office of El-Al, the Israeli airline. The first-floor office is so well disguised that even the one small sign in the window was removed before the Gulf war, leaving no indication of its whereabouts. "They are chicken, and I do not blame them," said an Egyptian. "None of us wants them here."

The mood is recognised by the Americans who have repeatedly reminded reporters of the difficulties and said that a breakdown in Madrid is a strong possibility. "I am sure that what we will be saying in six months from now was that getting to the

peace table was the easy part," a State Department official said. "You have to assume the most difficult parts are yet to come." The main hope is that the process of resolving the world's most troublesome dispute has been irrevocably notched forward. "I can probably predict with confidence that this process will break down, but it will never be this hard to get them together again," said William Quandt, a former American official involved in the Camp David process. He added that even if negotiations did occur, they were likely to be desultory at best until 1993 because Israel and the United States will be conducting national elections. "The point of holding a conference now is that you are investing to put in place a structure to exploit any positive opening that comes along," Mr Quandt said.

## West on terror alert in face of hardline opposition to talks

From Christopher Walker in Cairo

SENIOR Western diplomatic sources said yesterday that Western governments and moderate Arab states had implemented a full-scale terrorist alert after growing opposition to the Middle East peace conference from Iran, Iraq, Libya and the extremist groups that they finance. Among the groups believed to be involved in an imminent campaign to disrupt the October 30 Madrid conference are the Abu Nidal organisation, the Palestinian Liberation Front of Abu Abbas and elements of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command headed by Ahmed Jibril. Western experts fear

that the secret services of the hardline states may also strike against those backing the peace process, notably moderate supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and members of the Jordanian delegation.

The Western sources said the alert was similar to that implemented before the Gulf war. The latest security scare was preceded by a public warning on October 11 from James Baker, the American Secretary of State, based on "highly classified information" that the opposers would try to sabotage the talks.

As Iran hosted at the weekend delegates from 45 countries opposed to the Madrid conference at a meeting on Palestine, the Islamic Resistance, a guerrilla coalition led by the pro-Iranian Hezbollah claimed responsibility for a bomb which killed three Israeli soldiers and wounded five others yesterday in south Lebanon. Two Hezbollah leaders, Abbas Musawi and Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, were among the 400 delegates in Tehran for the four-day gathering.

Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, told the delegates that resistance to the Madrid conference was a holy war. "All Muslims are bound to participate in this jihad and funnel their financial and political information and military aid to the Palestinians," he said. Among those attending the conference were delegates from Iraq, whose defeat in the Gulf war created the opportunity for the present peace initiative. A statement issued yesterday in Baghdad attacked the Madrid talks as an American plot to "liquidate" the Palestine issue and dominate the region. Although some of the more radical Palestinian groups are based in Damascus, much of their funds are now believed to come from Iran, Iraq and Libya as the Syrian regime seeks to improve its international image.

Efforts by Egypt to contain the opposition by Colonel Muammar Gaddafi to the Madrid conference appeared to have failed despite the Libyan leader's visit this month to Cairo to attend the wedding of President Mubarak's son. The Libyan news agency Jana issued an appeal by Colonel Gaddafi for an opinion poll to be held throughout the Arab world about the peace conference.

The Libyan leader accused moderate Arab leaders of ignoring public opinion by agreeing to sit down with Israel. In the appeal he said: "We warn our brothers... to take into consideration the opinion of the masses because these masses themselves liquidated King Abdullah (of Jordan, who also tried to initiate peace talks with Israel), toppled Farouk (of Egypt), Faisal (of Iraq) and Sanusi (the former Libyan monarch ousted by Gaddafi) and others who disregarded Arab rights."

Israel agrees, page 1  
Leading article, page 15

## Israeli troops die in Hezbollah attack

From Ali Jaber in Beirut

GUERRILLAS of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah said yesterday that they had killed and wounded 15 Israeli servicemen by detonating a large bomb as an Israeli patrol passed inside Israel's self-proclaimed security zone in southern Lebanon.

A spokesman for the guerrilla group said: "Our fighters set off a big bomb at the road intersection of al-Tourah village in the path of an Israeli armoured patrol at approximately 10.15am." The spokesman added that the attack was one of the group's biggest operations against Israel.

"Radio of the Light", which speaks for Hezbollah, said that the explosion was aimed

against the Soviet-American Middle East peace plan. The radio said Hezbollah's fighters had vowed to continue the armed struggle against Israel, and emphasised the group's opposition to peace talks. Another source in southern Lebanon said at least six Israeli troops were killed in the attack, adding that "bodies were seen scattered at the scene after the bomb". The source added that Israeli helicopters and ambulances rushed to the scene to bring out the dead and wounded.

The attack flew in the face of the Lebanese government's attempt to stop attacks across the border from southern Lebanon.



Making up: Yassir Arafat embracing Abdel-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice-president, in Damascus yesterday

## Guerrillas instil fear from grave

From Richard Beeston in Gadot, Israel

AT FIRST sight the crooked white markers by the side of a dirt road near this kibbutz farm in northern Galilee give the appearance of an unkempt vegetable patch long ago abandoned by its gardener. The fencing is rusted and in places broken through. Litter has collected by the locked gate, and whoever planted the numbered stakes into the rocky ground appeared to have done the job quickly and without any enthusiasm.

"This place has always given me the creeps," said Nissim Stephenson, a member of the local kibbutz prepared to take visitors to the site, but who will not actually venture into the area itself. "It is deserted, sad, and unwanted." The problem is not that Gadot is situated in a particularly unpleasant spot, above the Jordan river in what used to be the no man's land between Israel and Syria before the 1967 war, but more likely that the morbid nature of the work here does not inspire people to linger longer than they absolutely have to.

"Military area, no photography," reads the faded Hebrew sign on the gate, the only hint that this little plot is

actually the resting place for hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinian gunmen — 335 according to the numbered graves — who have died in border clashes with the Israeli defence forces in the past 25 years of guerrilla activity. If the graves were marked with names rather than numbers they would probably read like a roll call of the men of violence of this region of the world, hailed as heroic martyrs just a few miles across the border in Lebanon, but here regarded by the Israeli army as terrorists intent on infiltrating the Jewish state to kill Israelis.

Although most locals would not begrudge them the right to a decent burial, this will not be their final resting place, as the recently disturbed ground in one section of the cemetery suggests: last month remains of nine members of the Lebanese Shia Muslim militia Hezbollah were disinterred and released to the International Committee of the Red Cross, who returned them to their families in Lebanon in exchange for information about missing Israeli servicemen. The morbid trade in bodies is expected to continue this autumn.

## Shamir warheads 'target Russia'

By David Watts, Diplomatic Correspondent

ISRAEL'S nuclear arsenal is far bigger than previously believed and many of its nuclear weapons are targeted on the Soviet Union, according to a new book. Seymour Hersh, the author, claims that Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, has under his control three times more nuclear weapons than the 100 generally estimated. He says that Israel has tactical and strategic weapons, including more than 100 nuclear artillery shells and nuclear landmines in the Golan Heights, as well as hundreds of low-yield neutron warheads capable of destroying large numbers of enemy troops. Israel has always denied owning nuclear weapons.

The size and sophistication of Israel's nuclear arsenal allows men such as Ariel Sharon (the hardline Israeli housing minister) to dream of redrawing the map of the Middle East, aided by the implicit threat of nuclear force," Mr Hersh says. He accuses successive American governments of consciously ignoring the growth of the Israeli nuclear programme.

In *The Samson Option*, Mr Hersh says that Israel targeted

the Soviet Union with its nuclear-capable F16 American-built jets in the belief that the threat would deter Moscow from arming its Middle East Arab clients with nuclear weapons and from helping them in the event of a war with Israel. To ensure the Kremlin got the message, the Israelis made sure that it received sanitised versions of American targeting intelligence indicating their intentions.

The Israelis procured their information about Soviet targets, both legally and illegally, from American reconnaissance satellites. Much of the information required for targeting the southern Soviet Union came from Jonathan Pollard, the spy who, Mr Hersh says, was active in Washington for four years, not just the 17 months revealed at his trial.

The author confirms previous suspicions that Israel, with South African assistance, tested as many as three neutron bombs in the southern Atlantic in 1979. He says that Israel's nuclear machine has gone on full alert three times — twice during the 1973 Yom Kippur war, and once during the Gulf war.

## Torture graves found

Nicosia — Iraqi Kurd rebels said two mass graves containing the bodies of Kurds tortured and killed by President Saddam Hussein's troops had been discovered near the northern Iraqi towns of Sulaymaniyah and Irbil.

"The scars and other signs of torture on the corpses prove that the Kurds were severely beaten prior to their execution," the Patriotic Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan radio reported at the weekend. Allied sources in northern Iraq confirmed the reports and said the graves each contained the bodies of nine Kurds. The sources did not know the circumstances of the killings.

The radio, monitored by the Iranian news agency, said it was believed the Kurds had been buried after being killed by Iraqi troops in recent battles in northern Iraq. About 400 people were killed in fierce fighting between Kurdish rebels and Iraqi government troops around Sulaymaniyah this month. At least 60 Iraqi government soldiers were shot or bludgeoned to death after the army shelled civilian areas.

The unrest in Sulaymaniyah was the most serious in northern Iraq since Saddam's forces crushed a Kurdish uprising against his rule after his defeat by the American-led alliance in the Gulf war. (Reuters)

## Sands of time

Bona — Falling postal, headquarters of the Desert Rats, is preparing for a baby invasion. The wives of more than 200 of the men who served in the Gulf are now pregnant, with 23 babies due in December and another 43 in January. The first baby is expected on December 6 by Susan Love.

## Hrawi mission

Paris — President Hrawi of Lebanon arrived in Paris from Beirut amid heavy security for a visit which is aimed at mending fences with France and to seek aid to help his country recover from 15 years of civil war. He said that he hoped for French help to rebuild services such as power and telephones. (Reuters)

## Fires nearly out

Rashtadhin, Kuwait — Fire-fighters say only about 70 of the 732 Kuwaiti oilwells set alight or damaged by Iraq remain to be capped. David Barrett, of the Texas-based Neal Adams Firefighting, said he expected these to be capped by early next month. Others said that mid-November was more likely. (Reuters)

## Fur days' work

Kuwait City — Hundreds of sailors from the American warship, L.Y. Spear, have volunteered for "Operation Paws and Claws" to repair cages and fences at Kuwait's zoo damaged by Iraqis. They are also installing water heaters and repairing air-conditioning at a school for disabled children. (AP)

## Afghan battles

Islamabad — The Afghan government and its guerrilla opponents reported fighting around three cities in eastern Afghanistan. The rebels said they recaptured a government military post outside Garder but were attacked by planes around Jalalabad. Kabul radio said guerrillas fired rockets at Mehtar Lam. (Reuters)

## Cabinet acclaim

Baghdad — Two out of three Iraqis believe the government appointed by President Saddam Hussein after the Gulf war is a success, according to a poll in *Babil*, the newspaper owned by Saddam's son, Uday. Hussein Kamel Hassan, the defence minister, was chosen as the cabinet's handsomest man. (Reuters)

## Ozal heads for stormy waters in wake of Turkish poll

From Andrew Finkel in Ankara

TURKEY went to the polls yesterday in an election that could unseat the government and largely undermine the authority of President Ozal, whom foreign capitals have long seen as being well in command of Turkish policy. The 1982 constitution, seen by critics as a threat to individual and collective rights, is also under threat.

With the results under Turkey's complex electoral system still being counted, Suleyman Demirel — six times prime minister and twice unseated by the military — appeared set to win the most votes. The weaker performance of his True Path party in the big cities may deny him an overall majority. Opinion polls before the election also promised a

modest comeback for some of the other politicians whose careers the military tried to end when they held power between 1980 and 1983. The parties of two of Mr Demirel's former rivals, Bülent Ecevit and Necmettin Erbakan, look likely to get more than the 10 per cent of the popular vote which a party needs to qualify for seats in parliament.

Mr Erbakan's pro-Islamic Welfare party, whose economic policies revolve around the abolition of interest, will no doubt test the secular Turkish establishment's commitment to democracy. It is not yet clear whether the party will get enough seats to be in a position to bargain as a possible coalition partner.

Reports from Istanbul and Izmir airports yesterday said that thousands of Welfare party supporters were being flown in on charter flights from Germany. The Welfare



Demirel: seems likely to win most votes

party has also received the powerful endorsement of the right-wing Turkish Hearst Association which helped negotiate a pre-election deal between it and Mr Demirel might be simply to effect constitutional changes in advance of another early election.

The worry over a future short-term coalition government is that its constituent parties would be unable to take the unpopular steps needed to get Turkey's inflation rate (expected to run at 75 per cent for 1991) under control. One of the Motherland party's legacies was a round of pre-election public spending, and many believe the economy can ill afford further electioneering. The Social Democratic

Populist party has been harassed in its campaign by the successes of Mr Ecevit's rival left-wing party and the unpopularity of some of the party's big city mayors.

In southeast Turkey helicopters were used to ferry ballot boxes against possible attack by separatists of the Kurdish Workers' party. The problem of how to deal with the aspirations of the nation's Kurds will also test the country's new confidence in the democratic process. The southeast remains under a form of emergency rule with opinion divided on whether radical concessions to Kurdish demands for cultural or even some form of limited political autonomy will cure or only aggravate separatist violence.

In the last parliament, the Social Democratic Populist party, yesterday still looked the most likely kingmaker in a future coalition, although any deal between it and Mr Demirel might be simply to effect constitutional changes in advance of another early election.

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# Can modern dads be blokes, too?

Michael Rosen explains to Libby Purves that it is possible to be a caring, sharing father without being a wimp

The "new man", as every woman knows, is a mixed blessing. On the one hand he does his bit round the home and children; on the other, he thinks he invented them. It is nice that he takes an interest in pregnancy, but irritating when he snatches the drink from your hand. It is certainly an advance that he has decided to weep and express feelings and talk about relationships, but unfortunately that he does it so relentlessly. Indeed, role reversal can go too far: it may sound churlish to say so, but there is a certain kind of quivering sensitivity is enough to drive any sensible woman straight to the pub for a game of darts.

It puts men off, too. A recent London conference heard — from speaker after exasperated speaker — that there is little truth in the modern myth of the involved father. Outside the chattering classes, they insisted, men go on as they always have: shy of babies, repelled by nappies and elsewhere during messy weekend trappings. But neither are they wholly happy about it: young men have been told that things could be different and better. Since they lack the networks of advice that women build, each one has to pioneer his own way into modern fatherhood and many fail. They feel subtly excluded. They long for a real man to tell them how to start.

Suddenly one has. Michael Rosen, a children's author and performer, has condensed his experience of five children and stepchildren into a breezy manual for other men. His background is Jewish — "not religiously so, but very strongly culturally". His childhood memories are of a strong mother — "Always standing up and saying 'I do three jobs! So why am I doing the shopping?' — and a father (the educationalist Professor Harold Rosen), who has always been "great to talk to" but who had, his son observes, a genius for being elsewhere than at family tea. "He did a lot of DIY, and he would always be just going up to the dump to look for some old sinks." It is a play many wives will recognise.

Mike Rosen's own fatherly credentials are impeccable. "With my first wife we were both part-timers so we shared exactly fifty-fifty. I was into everything from the start. I think having been involved with all the poo and sick and stuff actually makes the relationship with kids better, cuddlier. When we separated, the two children came to me for half the week." Divorce, he admits, "is never going to be great for kids. But the important thing is that they're not abandoned. It drove my new partner mad that I spent hours on bedtime rituals when they were with us — she'd say 'It's nine o'clock and you're still singing'. But I owed it to them." A 1960s student revolutionary, Mr Rosen felt it logical to extend

his principles rigorously into marriage and the duties of children. "If women are human beings, then they're entitled to go out and do whatever men enjoy doing. If fathers are human beings, too, then one of the ways of proving it is by having something to do with those other human beings called children. Fathers who totally avoid childcare always seem to be trying to avoid paying their dues as members of the human race."

His book, however, reads neither leftist nor earnest. It is jolly alphabetical from Babies' Blotches ("Rashes and blobs appear all over them for no apparent reason") to Winding ("Nobody winds piglets, and they seem to manage"). Much of what he advises is sound commonsense parenthood of the type that needs to be restated for every generation, but his tone of voice is unusual in being both unmedical and unfeminine. This is no new man speaking, not when he says things like "A father's role at parties is to eat lots of ice-cream" or makes refreshingly tasteless jokes about waters breaking. He is breezy and laddish, and there is little in the book that unconstructed old-style men could not unblushingly quote to one another around a snooker table. But neither is he a callous joker of the "Kids, who'd have them?" school. There are real nuggets of insight here: his comments on the cause of tantrums are solid gold, and in the middle of a knock-about account of getting small children to bed, he will quietly observe: "Going to bed

*'Fathers and mothers are not the same thing. I don't pretend to be a woman. If I change a nappy, I do it in a blokey sort of way'*

means going to sleep, which means saying goodbye, and no-one likes saying goodbye to loved ones no matter how old you are."

He also devotes a page to "Being Around", and attacks the common male view (shared by some working mothers) that unless you are doing formal quality-time activities with the children your presence is not needed and you can't delegate school runs and passive childminding. Being around, in his book, involves the domestic pottering mothers have always done: "Wiping the table or tidying the mantelpiece, doing the washing and cleaning the loo... during these times you make a relationship with your children. It's then they ask you the really important things — 'Do buffaloes eat spaghetti?' — and other vital questions. Even reading the paper, your presence is a great big affirmation that you like the company you're keeping, just as your absence creates the tiny anxiety that home isn't where you want to be and the children aren't who you want to be with. If you are just around, then children will claim you."

Mr Rosen is a big man with a tangled black beard, and exudes chaotic, benevolent masculinity. Believing in equality does not, he says, deny the differences between men and women. "Fathers and mothers are not the same thing. I don't pretend to be a woman. If I



Boys together: Michael Rosen, with son Eddie, aged 11 — "your presence is a big affirmation that you like the company you're keeping," he says

change a nappy, I do it in a blokey sort of way... But I do it."

He even feels that being a man, unbothered by ideals of perfect motherhood, is quite useful. Apropos potty training, he may raise a few female hackles by observing: "The worst aspect of women being restricted to a domestic role is that this seems to have induced areas of pride where they are least appropriate. So, it becomes a matter of pride that a child doesn't wet the bed. A bedwetting child is a slur on motherhood. Ideally, the great thing about being a bloke is that you don't carry this burden. Your kid wets the bed? So he wets the bed. If you're into male

competitiveness, then stick to golf and Volvos."

If, he adds firmly, a man does his fair share of the work he earns a right to do it his own way. He is scornful of certain sacred cows like "the Middle Class Curriculum" — I can't think of anything more dreary than tired little children screwing away happily on violins — and of neurotic over-achieving parents. "One of the tricks of the fatherhood game is to forgo the need to be a winner. You can admit that some days you only managed to do one thing: buy some orange juice. Some days all you did was potter around doing nothing. And that's OK."

His wife Geraldine, an active birth teacher, was not allowed to see the book in progress. When she did she was exasperated, according to Mr Rosen, by the half-flippant way in which he presented his more serious insights. "She shouted at me that I had thrown away the points about relationships and feeling jealous of your kids and all that. I said, well, that's how I say these things. I do throw them away. I don't go on about them. A lot of blokes are like that, and I think there's a link with Jewish humour there, too." Pause, for a rather good Jewish joke. "Then she said I didn't have any pain as a child, so I see things in

ridiculously straight lines. I suppose she's right. I don't have enough hangups. I just look at a job, and think 'That can be done, Yippee'. And I don't feel threatened by women. Why should I? I've worked for the BBC long enough... Then she said I'm afraid to be taken seriously. I deny that."

But it would probably have been a proof of failure if Mrs Rosen had liked the book. It isn't meant for her. It's for men. And if they read and heed it, we should complain? I think not.

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● Goodies and Daddies, published by John Murray, October 24 (£9.95).

... and why are so many of them insisting on writing about it?

**MORE** and more books for Men. Only are shouldering their way onto shop shelves: in the childcare and parenting section. Daily Dr Spock finds more and more mates as fathers become increasingly keen to get their fathering right — and to write about it. Men, used to putting up shelves, assembling train sets and creating credible excuses for being late home from the office, already dominate in the field of DIY superspogs. Men are more obsessed than their female counterparts with creating children in the image, not of themselves, but of genius. "These books reflect the male competitive spirit," explained Michael Howe, a professor of psychology at Exeter University, and the author of *Sense and Nonsense About Housework*, published last year.

(British Psychological Society, £6.99). "The more strident are American but an increasing number of British ones are now popping up all over the place." Fathers' interest in cleaning and caring for, as well as creating, little Einsteins, however, is only relatively recent. "Parenthood has become fashionable in the last couple of years," says Nicola Cowen from Ebury, part of the publishers Random Century. Last year they published the actress Julie Walters's best-selling account of parenthood; now the actor Nigel Planer has followed with a book on being a grown-up and a daddy. "Books on parenthood are traditionally a woman's realm dominated by the Penelope Leachs and the Miriam Stoppards," Ms Cowen says. *A Good Enough Dad* (scheduled for publication next May at £9.95) is

not advice but a humorous look at fatherhood. Frances Lincoln, the publisher, also stresses the importance of accessibility for non-academics and non-professionals. Last week it published *Your Child's Development* (£16.95) by the psychologists Marjorie Walker and Richard Landsdown. "Because fathers are playing a much more important role than ten years ago, we felt it was very important to have both a man and a woman, and that both be parents," says Erica Hummingher, the editorial director. The company expects the book to be bought by both sexes. "Statistically women buy more books and give more books," Ms Cowen says. "It's not that men are too embarrassed. Why should they be?" And why, asks Michael Fishwick, an editor at HarperCollins,



A book is born: Nigel Planer

should men hesitate to write about fatherhood? Iron John may want to go hunting swathed in skins, lots of today's Johns would rather iron baby clothes. Mr Fishwick's own company's publication *Your Growing Child*, by David Fontana (£9.99), recently joined those by a cluster of other male professionals: old hands such as Dr Spock

(Parenting, revised 1989, £5.99, Penguin) and Hugh Jolly (*The Book of Childcare*, first published 1975, Unwin Hyman, £8.99); newcomers such as William Sears (*The Fussy Baby*, The New American Library, £5.95) and, more noticeably, Dr Christopher Green (*Babies*, Simon and Schuster, £6.99; *Toddler Taming*, Century, £6.99). "It's never struck me as at all odd that men should write about having children," Mr Fishwick says. Clyde Hunter, from Dorling Kindersley, on the other hand, thinks the phenomenon is not only very odd but to be discouraged. His own publishers do, of course, publish the best-selling childcare queen Miriam Stoppard, whose *New Baby* (Century, £7.99), revised last year, has sold half a million copies. Mr Hunter says market research supports his view. "A feeling

came out that while it was all right in the era of Dr Spock for middle-aged doctors to lay down the law, now women tend to have female doctors, prefer female doctors and want somebody writing who can tell them that certain aspects, such as depression and the pain of labour, are felt by everyone, someone who is actually writing from personal experience." An awareness of the gaps in male experience, heightened by the fact that she was also expecting her first baby, led Ms Cowen to suggest that her own company publish men's accounts of being present during labour. The idea was vetoed: "Ebury were worried it would frighten the poor creatures," she says. "Not even the newest of new men was expected to be able to cope with that."

NICOLA MURPHY

## America under a spell

Witchcraft may be the latest phase in women's rights

Goodbye broomsticks. Farewell eye of newt. Contemporary American witches pick up the telephone and say: "I won't be around tomorrow but my voice mail will be active." The voice on the answering machine belongs to Cheryl Costa, a computer programmer at a consulting firm in Washington. Outside office hours she is Lady Cassandra, a third degree high priestess in the Alexandrian Path of Wicca.

"We're just like everyone else," Ms Costa says. But not everyone would spend a wet Friday night performing a pagan ceremony around a makeshift altar (a wooden table) with shop-bought chocolate-chip cookies and apple juice to four-part chants wafting from a portable cassette player.

Lady Cassandra, dressed for the ceremony in a rumpled black robe and a metal tiara, is unfazed that some people find her weird. "Strange spirituality," she smiles, "is better than no spirituality at all." Therein lies the secret of pagan religion's popularity in the United States today. Many women have rejected Judeo-Christian male domination. Yet they long for ritual in a disorderly world. Intellectuals have argued that goddess worship is the latest phase in women's rights.

The number of active pagans is difficult to establish. Margot Adler, a journalist with National Public Radio, estimates there to be at least 100,000, maybe 500,000.

Ms Adler's book, *Drawing Down the Moon: Witches, Druids, Goddess-Worshippers and Other Pagans in America Today*, written a decade ago, still sells about 10,000 copies a year. Public demand for astrology, witchcraft and horoscope titles supports a national mail order company.

In academic circles, too, paganism has its champions. The Harvard Divinity School has a specialist. University campuses around the country host sessions on women's spirituality.

Almost anything, except satanism, goes. Modern American witches claim not to use spells for evil at all but for what one might call willpower to chivy fate into winking a certain way.

The prospect for financial profits in today's race for spiritual fulfilment cannot be underestimated. A publishing survey shows that the rare areas of expansion during a recession this year were dieting, feminism and the occult. Ms Costa was brought up a Catholic, but felt let down by the emphasis on heterosexuality in her church's teachings. She swapped theology for "theology". Her divinity is Mother Earth. Now she and her assistant, Erica Angell, a.k.a. Kestryl, a second-degree high priestess, have launched a bi-weekly cable television programme aiming to show a variety of bewitching ceremonies. For \$25 (£14.50) per person, they also run an occasional crash course in rudimentary Wicca, a paganism named after an old English word for witch.

On the damp Friday, a dozen people showed up, mainly married or divorced women. Obediently, they looked for "that space within yourself that you cannot be separated from", picturing themselves as trees sinking their roots ever deeper into the soil. Nobody laughed.

Hailing spirits of the East and guardians of the West from the corners of her class-room with a sword, Kestryl cast her first spell, between nibbles on the cookies, calling on the worshippers to pray for something positive. Lady Cassandra mentioned "my car, which has an oil leak".

Among the disgruntled customers, however, was one of two men. During an interval in Kestryl's lecture on the origins of the Maypole, he left a tart evaluation by her blackboard: "Less erroneous historical material, please." Kestryl was undeterred. "What's the difference between a pagan event and a New Age experience?" she quipped. Everyone gave in. "About 3,500 bucks."

SUSAN ELLICOTT

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St Michael: detail from a 16th century tapestry in "Resplendence of the Spanish Monarchy"

## Setting the stage in style

John Russell Taylor reports on Seurat with showbiz, and a host of other exhibitions opening in New York

If an exhibition is being staged in Paris, the organisers usually appear to think that the only thing required is to mount the paintings on the lacklustre walls of the Grand Palais; everything else will take care of itself. In New York, by contrast, museums and galleries understand that they are in the business of making great exhibitions, with all of showbiz know-how this implies. That possibly explains why the giant travelling show of Seurat looks so much better at the Metropolitan Museum than it ever did in Paris.

Even so, in New York as in Paris, the show's main problem is that it looks like *Hamlet* without the prince. Three of the small number of capital works, the London National Gallery's *Une baignade, Asnières*, the Chicago Art Institute's *Un dimanche à la Grande Jatte* and the Barnes Foundation's *Poseuses*, are too fragile to travel, or prevented by the terms of their donation. In Paris these were present only in the dispiriting form of black-and-white photographs, surrounded by related drawings and oil sketches.

Not exactly surrounded, however, since the layout of the Grand Palais dictated a lot

of twisting and turning to cross-check. The Metropolitan has sensibly abandoned the photographs, and concentrated on grouping the ancillary works to make satisfactory sense on their own. The background colours of walls and lighting are much more sensitive, and the compartments of the gallery space smaller and more intimate. The result is that absences are minimised, so the masterpieces that are present — *Parade de cirque*, *La Cirque* and *Jeune femme se poudrant* — really assert themselves.

In addition, there is a revealing background show devoted to Neo-Impressionism: The Friends and Followers of Georges Seurat, all drawn from the museum's permanent collection. It demonstrates the nature and scope of Seurat's innovations, and the eye-opening effect his pointilliste technique had on a whole generation of French and Belgian painters. Early Matisse jostles with such lesser figures as Maximilian Luce, Hippolyte Petitjean and Charles Angrand, and does

not always capture attention without a real contest.

The Seurat show is on this year because it is the centenary of the painter's death. Another landmark, much more important in an American context, is looming: the 500th anniversary next year of Columbus's discovery of America. First past the post with a big commemorative exhibition is the National Gallery in Washington, which this month opened the gigantic *Circa 1492: Art in the Age of Exploration*. The "circa" has to be taken in its widest possible sense: it seems to be within a century either way. Also, much of the art shown has nothing to do with "the Age of Exploration" — though it could be argued that if a chance is offered to see, for example, the *Leonardo Lady With An Ermine*, who will complain of irrelevance?

The show's first part ranges from Dürer to Michelangelo, and also takes in Islamic contributions to the art of navigation. Part two is inspired by what Columbus thought he was going to find, if

America had not been in the way: vaguely contemporary art from Japan, China, Korea and so on. Part three takes up — and not before time, insists an influential lobbying campaign — the theme of native American art: Aztec sculpture, the gold of Columbia, and all the other things that Columbus, by his discovery, helped destroy. Other shows suggesting a contrary view of Columbus's achievement are already around, including the spectacular *Mexico: Splendours of Thirty Centuries* at the Los Angeles County Museum.

Back at the Metropolitan in New York, no shadow of doubt is allowed to fall. The other big new show there is *Resplendence of the Spanish Monarchy*, an extraordinary collection of tapestries and works from the Patrimonio Nacional, all dating from the 50 years after 1492, the period of the newly-united Spanish monarchy's greatest power. The tapestries mostly come from the Low Countries, which were then ruled by Charles I of Spain (later Emperor Charles V). The detail is intricate and evocative, but looks better in the catalogue's fine colour photographs than in the galleries' necessarily dim lights. The armour, however, most of it from Augsburg or Milan, has a remarkable physical presence; its beautiful design and workmanship seem far from the practicalities of warfare, but as an embodiment of the panoply of worldly power it could hardly be bettered.

Elsewhere in New York public galleries seem bent on contemplating America's naval, with such shows as the Museum of Modern Art's

*Pleasures and Terrors of Domestic Comfort*, in which dozens of recent American photographers turn their attentions, sometimes witty, more often appalled, to the homelife of the hinterland. There is also the Whitney Museum's tribute to John Baldessari, him of the photo-pieces in which coloured blobs are substituted for all the faces, and, earlier, of staged photographs of domestic violence.

Meanwhile, the commercial sector appears to be taking refuge from recession in reliable modern classics (insofar as anything is reliable). No surprises here, except at the recently established Stiebel Modern (an off-shoot of a respected traditional gallery), which gives a one-person show to Sara Rossberg, who has become one of London's leading realists. The new works carry further a preoccupation with dimensional paint teased into the texture of a woollen bedspread or a crumpled nylon shirt. This sounds like a gimmick but works well, especially since the scenes depicted are as tense and mysterious as ever.

● Seurat. Neo-Impressionism. *Resplendence of the Spanish Monarchy*. Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, New York (212-877-5500), all until January.

● Circa 1492: National Gallery of Art, 600 Constitution Avenue, Washington DC (202-737-4215) until January 12.

● Pleasures and Terrors of Domestic Comfort: Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York (212-708-9400) until December 31.

● John Baldessari: Whitney Museum, Madison Avenue at 75th Street, New York (212-570-3676) until October 20.

● Sara Rossberg: Stiebel Modern, 32 East 57th Street, New York (212-759-5536) until November 9.

### CLASSICAL MUSIC: SOUTH BANK

## A tantalising taste of Italy

A Little Italy, the South Bank's festival of modern Italian music is, as its name implies, as engagingly admits in its name, little. But perhaps the measured dose will do more for our musical health than the marathons and blockbusters of headier times: six concerts in two and a half weeks make a more manageable prospect than 50 in six months — manageable for the audience and also for the administration, which has been able to make this a choice offering of pieces and performers.

Rightly, the main attraction is Luciano Berio, whose new orchestral piece, *Continuo*, will have its first European performance next week. Throughout Berio's career there runs a thread of major works in which the whole sound of massed instruments, of groups without explicit soloists, has been thrillingly reshaped, by a musical mind of unrivalled virtuosity and sophistication. The prospect of the next stage in this exploration is tantalising, especially with a canny surrounding programme of Berio arrangements.

He was there too last week at the beginning of the festival, in another all-Berio concert, but of smaller and generally older pieces. The one new item was *Calmo*, written in 1974 as a short memorial song for his friend and colleague Bruno Maderna, but substantially revised and extended in 1988-9, with the original fragment from the *Odyssey* ("like a singer who knows how to use the lyre and calmly plucks the strings") preceded by a long poetic, phonetic and musical preparation. Here the ingredients are stirred — verbal sounds, melodic ideas, chord movements in a subaqueous ensemble of blended middle-range instruments — until they gel into the Homeric song.

All this is characteristic of Berio, as is the conception of the soprano soloist as a dramatic player, not just a recitalist with a music stand. One new and simple ruse, having her wear bracelets and anklets of jingles, instantly transforms her into a person of formal gestures and hieratic, incantatory presence. She seems to be commanding the orchestra; her authority is magical and unassailable. Or so it appeared from the remarkable perfor-

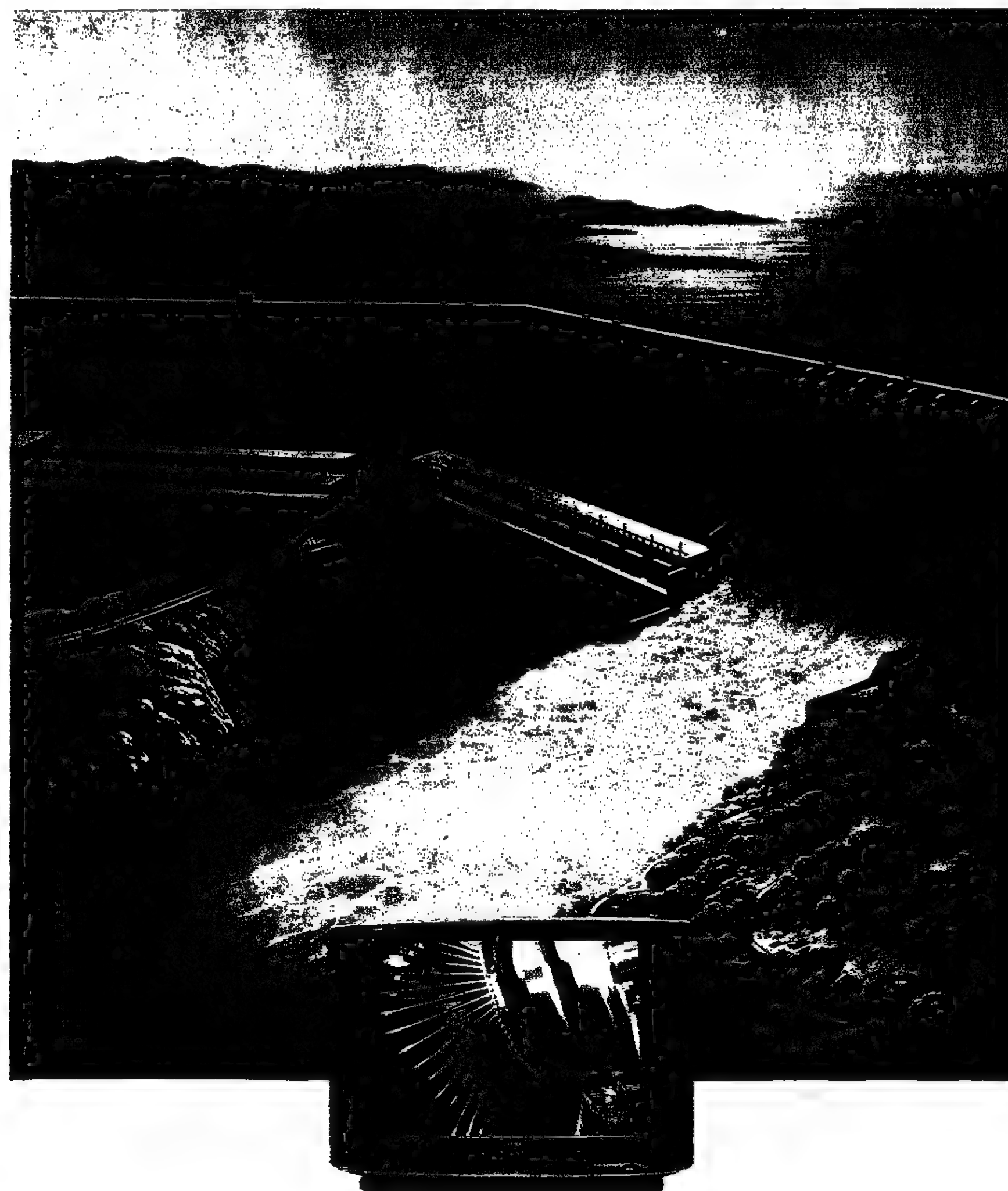
mance by Luisa Castellani, who kept just this side of archness and witchery; she also gave a compelling account of the solo piece *Sequenza III*, nervier and weirder than Cathy Berberian, more closely suggesting a Becking musical.

Other voices appeared in the rest of the programme: those of two sopranos and three clarinets in the whispered close textures of *Agnus*, a wonderful extended moment of numbed fright that Berio wrote for the revised version of his first opera, which still awaits a production here, and those of David Osmond-Smith with the London Sinfonietta Voices and Chorus, performing with the equally eloquent instrumental voices of the Sinfonietta in the Dante voyage *Laborintus II*.

This last was done with unusual strength and beauty. Osmond-Smith spoke the narration, usefully in English, with the severity, the dry squeezed rhetoric, that its author Edoardo Sanguineti used to bring to performances, while the singers and instrumentalists splashed with the sensuousness of Berio's contribution to the mapping of hell. No doubt Terry Edwards's sound projection helped here, as it certainly did in bringing forward the taped component; this sounded dated, of course (the work was a French radio commission for the Dante septemcentenary in 1965), but it was no less ebullient and evocative for that.

Altogether the evening was an event, and a heartening start to the festival, which continues on Friday with the first of two concerts by the Arditi Quartet. Its programmes include Maderna's quartet and a new work by that master of the quirky, fine-spun and baroque, Niccolò Castiglioni, as well as Giacinto Scelsi's Fourth Quartet. But perhaps the Arditi Quartet's most enticing offering is Nono's *Frammento-Stille*, and certainly "A Little Italy" should have a memorable finale when the same composer's early masterpiece, *Il canto sospeso*, a fierce, lyrical setting of prison letters, has a performance in the suitable company of humane, protesting music by Schoenberg (*A Survivor from Warsaw*) and Beethoven (the complete *Egmont* forces). Given by BBC forces under Ingo Metzmacher, this rare concert takes place on November 2.

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## DANCE

Debra Craine on how two 'lost' works have been rescued from obscurity by Birmingham Royal Ballet

# Something old, something new, something true

Of all the great European performing arts, none has been so careless about its own immortality as dance. Symphonies and operas have been meticulously recorded in their myriad notes for eternity's pleasure. Plays—at least since the days of the medieval liturgical dramas—have been enshrined in immutable texts. But some of the choicest heirlooms in ballet's rich inheritance have been lost to posterity, victims of the simple fact that nobody ever bothered to write them down.

Systems of notating dance are almost as old as ballet itself—the first such system was published in 1700—but it was not until the latter half of the 20th century that it became standard practice to make a written account of a ballet's component steps. Until then, many ballets had no "score"; they were handed down by example, passing from one generation to the next through the fallible memories of choreographers and their dancers. Along the way, inevitably, entire works were forgotten.

These days, though, reconstructing these lost ballets has become fashionable. In America, dance historians such as Millicent Hodson have reclaimed early 20th-century works by Nijinsky and Balanchine. Like detectives, the dance archaeologists chase elderly witnesses and unearth fragments of documentary evidence in their search for clues. And step by painstaking step, another link in ballet's evolutionary chain is discovered.

This season Birmingham Royal Ballet is adding two more "lost" danceworks to the saved list: Massine's 1933 symphonic ballet, *Choreartium*, and MacMillan's 1958 psycho-drama, *The Burrow*. In the case of the former, the idea has been to reproduce artistic history; in the case of the latter, the idea has been to rewrite it.

*Choreartium*, created for the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo in 1933, was the second of Massine's symphonic ballets and the only one without literary or narrative content. Set to Brahms's Fourth Symphony, it was a revolutionary work which aroused the scorn of musical purists who believed that it was sacrilege for symphonies to be set to choreography. Yet the critic



Recreating the past: Leskova

*'I didn't invent anything for this ballet. Where something was missing, say four beats, I would ask myself what Massine did in other ballets and then copy his steps'*

Arnold Haskell called it "the birth and triumph of pure dancing" and many others regarded the abstract work as Massine's masterpiece. It was last staged in 1960 when the choreographer himself mounted a production in Italy (also seen at the Edinburgh Festival that year), but since then the ballet has slipped out of sight.

Massine died in 1979 so the task of re-creating his masterpiece has fallen to Tatiana Leskova, a dancer with Ballet Russe from 1939-45, who was responsible for *Choreartium*'s last restaging 30 years ago and also for the 1989 Paris Opera Ballet revival of *Les Présages*, the first symphonic ballet.

Leskova has spent the past year studying amateur film of *Choreartium*, immersing herself in its music and digging into the memories of her fellow dancers from the Ballet Russe. The 1960 production was no help: because of the prohibitive expense of hiring a notator it was never written down; the only recording made of the

ballet was an incomplete film. "If you saw the film you would laugh," says Leskova. "Massine didn't want to spend money on someone to take a film so he took it himself at Nervi. And it's terrible; you can't see anything."

Still, the film did jog Leskova's memory, and with the help of Tatiana Grigorieva, another Ballet Russe dancer, the steps for each of the 24 dancers were pieced together. The result, according to Leskova, is "97 to 98 per cent accurate."

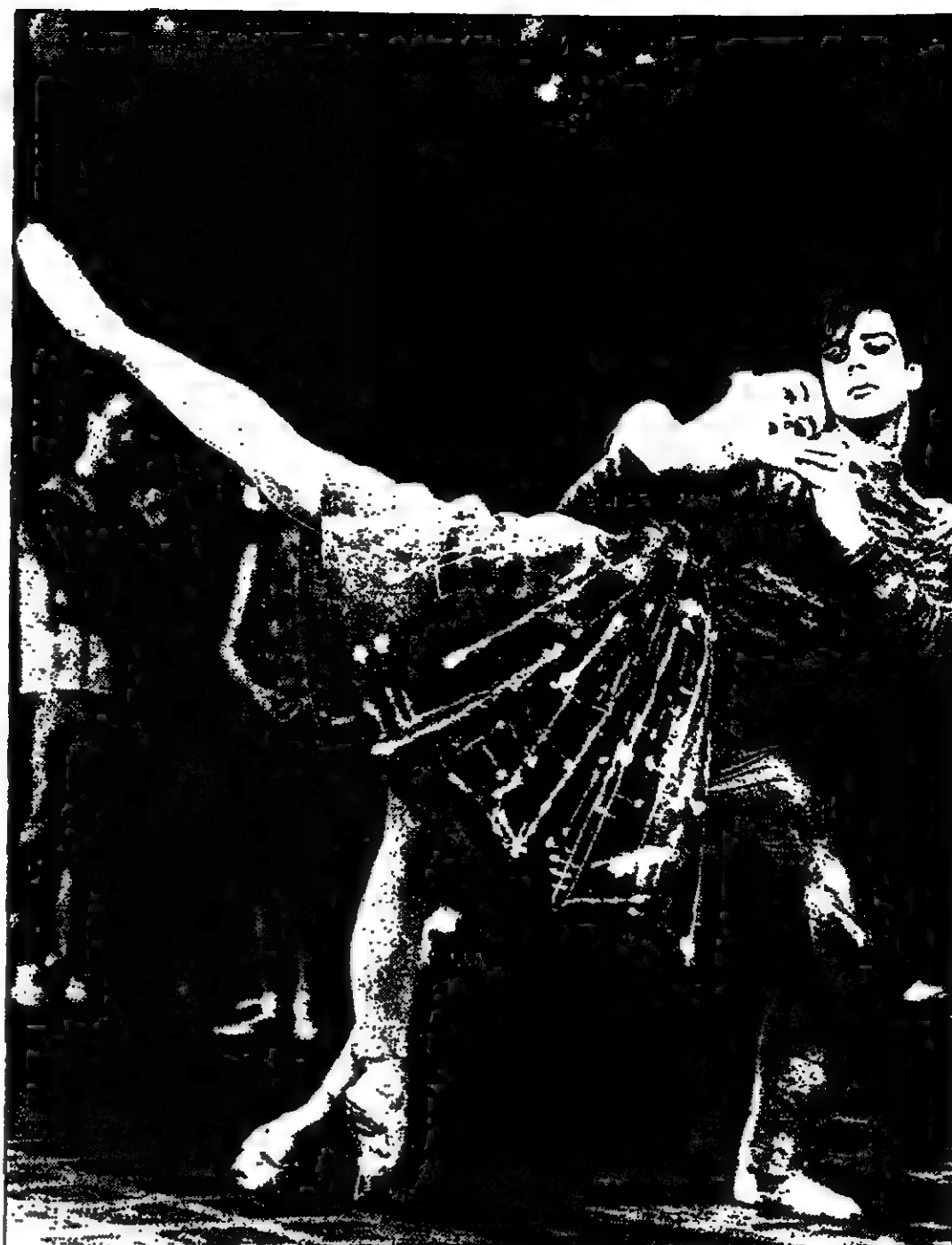
"There are gaps, but maybe of only four beats at the most here and there. But I didn't invent anything for this ballet. Where something was missing, say four beats, I would ask myself what Massine did in other ballets and then copy his steps. So it's all Massine, not my choreography."

This time *Choreartium* is being notated and professionally filmed so it will be preserved for posterity at last, almost 60 years after its premiere. Leskova hopes the result will enhance the choreographer's reputation.

"Massine is under-rated because his lighter ballets like *La Boutique Fantasque*, *Gaîté Parisienne* and *Le Beau Danube* do better to companies, and he was a man who liked to earn money. But his greatness lies in his symphonic ballets; his choreography for them is architecture. *Choreartium* is very dramatic, without actually putting a knife in your heart, and it's very sophisticated."

While Leskova has been trying to remember every detail of Massine's original choreography, Kenneth MacMillan has been forgetting his for *The Burrow*, which is also being revived after a 30-year interval. Made for the Royal Ballet in 1958, it, too, was not notated, only badly filmed, but MacMillan does not care: he has decided to completely re-choreograph it.

"I'm looking at it as a new ballet," he says. "The intent is the same but I've changed most of the steps. I've forgotten the original impetus for the ballet so I keep looking at this flickering little film that was taken at the time and thinking, 'My God, why did I do that? I can't do that now. I have to do something else.' The ballet's original designer, Nicholas Georgiadis, is also giving the ballet a different look with new sets and costumes."

Rewriting the past: Lynn Seymour and Donald MacLeary as the lovers in the original *The Burrow*

audiences did three decades ago, but he believes *The Burrow*'s psycho-political slant is still valid, even more universal. "Because it was so close to the war I think everyone identified it with that at the time," he says. "I think it will be harder for audiences today to identify it but I don't think it will be less relevant because people are still being persecuted in the world. I mean who knows what's going on in those Eastern bloc countries still, or in South America. Nowadays you could read any enemy you like outside the door."

For MacMillan the task of re-writing himself is proving very different from making a new ballet. "When you're creating a ballet there are no rules. But when you're re-creating a ballet there are rules which people remember. All the time you think 'I have to stick to the original idea'. The same intent has to come across and that rather bamboozles you in the choice of steps you use; it imprisons you. I would rather start again and make a whole new ballet. The sky's the limit when you're doing something new."

Still, this restaging offers the choreographer a unique opportunity to rethink one of his earliest works, and the experience is one he appreciates. "I think a lot of the ballet was very naive choreographically. I hope I'm a little bit more sophisticated now; I hope I've done it better."

● *Choreartium* opens at the Birmingham Hippodrome (021-622 7486) on Friday; *The Burrow* opens on October 31. Both ballets will be seen at the Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 459 351) the week of November 4.

## BRIEFING

## Lift-off agreed

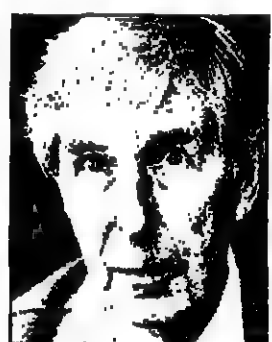
ENGLISH National Opera, which is losing Peter Jonas, its general director, to Bavarian State Opera, has galloped to the rescue of the Munich house. The Bavarians expected to stage a new Peter Hall production of *Peter Grimes* this season, but their ancient stage hydraulic equipment proved unequal to the challenge. So Munich is borrowing ENO's admired *Grimes*, which requires no hydraulics. Tim Albery will restage his production in Munich, and Andrew Davis is conducting.

## Harwich score

ONE of Britain's oldest surviving purpose-built cinemas celebrates its eightieth anniversary next month by screening a silent classic with a live musical score. The Electric Palace in Harwich, Essex, screens *Moulin Rouge* on November 29 with a score by Mike Westbrook, the jazz composer. The score was premiered at last year's London Film Festival, and will tour Europe next year, accompanying E.A. Dupont's 1928 classic.

## Critics' choice

SIR Michael Tippett will receive the 1991 Critics' Circle Award on Thursday. In the same ceremony David Rennie, a Cambridge student, receives the Anne Frankell Prize of £500 to a film critic under the age of 25.



Appointed: Sir Michael

## Last chance...

AS JIM Kerr, vocalist of Simple Minds, said: "If there's such a thing as a big league, we want to be in it." Mission accomplished, the Scottish group plays at Wembley Arena (081-900 1234) tonight and Wednesday, the final British dates of a tour that has taken them to the biggest venues in Europe. The show is the usual display of majestic bluster, although the "Free South Africa" rhetoric has been quietly put under wraps.

## ARTS REVIEWS

Aida in Birmingham and the Dublin Theatre Festival  
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## TELEVISION REVIEW

## History cleverly faked for the cameras

During a routine visit to the royal picture restorer, Sir Anthony Blunt (James Fox) notices, in passing, the unwrapping of a dark, ferocious Renaissance picture, its silent howls of exaggerated anguish arresting him in his tracks. He performs a slight double-take. "What frightful thing is happening here?" he asks, peering down his nose at the canvas. "The Martyrdom of St Lawrence," is the eager reply—and the picture (though shown on screen for a mere half-second) sure enough depicts the famous 3rd century saint being slow-roasted on a gridiron.

"Art!" exclaims Blunt, and hurries off to his next appointment, presumably thinking no more about St Lawrence. Yet the image of slow cooking ought to ring a bell, since this same net appointment takes Blunt to his own version of sizzling sunny-side up on the gridiron: enduring the slow, persistent interrogation methods of a dogged MI5 officer.

Alan Bennett's *A Question of Attribution* (BBC1 last night) was so packed with clever art historical metaphors and analogies of this kind that it was almost too rich for the mental digestion—especially, if I may say so, a digestion accustomed to the rather thin gruel of earlier *Screen One* offerings. Anyone naively expecting the play to tell them what Sir Anthony was "really like" will have been surprised by the irritability with which the question was implicitly swept aside. This was a play of ideas, not psychology. It dealt far less with "Why did he do it?" than with "Why do you want to know?"

Similarly, anyone recalling Alan Bates's superbly twice-as-natural performance as Guy Burgess in Bennett's companion play, *An Englishman Abroad*, will have noticed immediately that Blunt was a decidedly less charming and entertaining character. As depicted by James Fox, Blunt's was a stately, snobbish



Word play that forms the images: James Fox, left, as Blunt and David Calder as Chubb

and intensely private life. back, as though trying to apparently devoid of pleasure, identify a difficult smell. But to convey all this, Fox placed slightly too much reliance on frowning with his head tilted

the point of identifying long-ago sitters (that is, long-ago munists)—we might have had one of those voracious Stoppardian hall-of-mirrors treatments, where every surface simply reflects light instead of colouring it.

The play lost a few laughs in its transition to the screen (it was originally seen as half of the National Theatre double bill *Single Spies*, with Bennett as Blunt). But its great set piece—the encounter between Blunt and his royal employer "HMQ" in a corridor at Buckingham Palace, in which the brightly smiling monarch muses on the inadequacy of portraiture while pressing Blunt on the subject of "fakes"—survived with dignity, with Penelope Spheeris's marvellously inscrutable performance seeming to embody all these art historical issues (while getting the best from the jokes) in a way that James Fox's never quite managed.

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## LEADING HORSES TO WATER

The Middle East peace conference, agreed yesterday by the Israeli cabinet with only three dissenters, is a triumph for American diplomacy. Coming after a line of successes that included arms control agreements, German unification and an end to the Cold War, it is a personal achievement for James Baker that confirms his place as a great American secretary of state. He has reached a goal that eluded all his predecessors, United Nations resolutions and would-be peace-makers around the world: bringing Israel and all its Arab neighbours around a negotiating table.

He was helped by a combination of circumstances. There is now an extraordinary degree of co-operation between Washington and Moscow, the antagonists' former patrons and arms suppliers. The combined pressure of the Soviet Union and the United States can move even the most stubborn politicians, overcome the most intractable hatreds. Fortunately Israel's request for a massive loan guarantee also gave Washington unexpected leverage in Jerusalem. President Bush, buoyed by a home popularity that has made him impervious to electoral blackmail, faced down the consequent intense lobbying. To an unusual degree Mr Baker enjoys the trust and shares the thinking of his president.

As Peter Brooke has found to his chagrin in Ulster, however, it is one thing to get the consent of bitter enemies to talk, quite another to make peace. Each side, anticipating ever greater pressure for concessions, will look for ways of sabotaging the talks in advance. Their trick will be to pick on some procedural niggles, invest it with spurious principle and manipulate the other side into breaking off the talks and incurring the opprobrium. Mr Baker has anticipated this. He has allowed the participants no room for retreat and little time to make mischief.

Two of the delegations around the table will cause little trouble. Lebanon, back from 15 years of turmoil, is now ready to pick up the earlier negotiations with Israel that foundered on Syrian-inspired opposition. Jordan, almost throttled by the anger of Gulf states and the West for its equivocation during the Gulf war, is desperate to resume its good standing in the world.

The other participants show no such amenability. The Palestinians, who will sit with the Jordanians, are humiliated at the severe conditions of their inclusion. Limited by the intifada in their room for manoeuvre, they hover on the brink of acknowledging allegiance to the PLO, a move that would give Israeli rejectionists the excuse they seek to shatter the brittle accord. Syria is also likely to make its demands for the return of the Golan Heights an early sticking point and an obstacle to later discussion of water resources and regional co-operation.

The Americans will keep up the pressure. They have not come this far to walk away when the bickering starts. Mr Baker must do as he did before: use American (and Soviet) chairmanship to set deadlines, mobilise international opinion, block lines of retreat, by holding all sides to security council resolutions and previous undertakings.

The whole point of the meeting is direct, face to face negotiations, something Israel has long proclaimed as its goal. No delegation must be allowed to use the Americans, Russians or other interested parties as proxy negotiators. Nor must they be under any illusion that they can toy with world hopes by toying with the issues. For all the talk of trust and good will, it is the threat and fear of isolation that has brought and will still bring most of the participants to Madrid. It has taken Mr Baker eight visits to the region to get a conference agreed. The hard part is now beginning.

## BALLAD OF WAKEFIELD JAIL

One of the greatest barriers to the reform of the prison system in England and Wales is the obstruction of the Prison Officers' Association. One stark illustration of its baleful influence — at Wakefield prison in Yorkshire — is given in *The Times* today. Officers there face an ultimatum to end their seven months of disruption or be sacked. At least 37 of the 123 penal establishments under the jurisdiction of the Home Office are currently afflicted with similar industrial disputes, some more than one at a time. The total is rising. This cannot go on.

The current spate of disputes means staff working to rule, prisoners locked in their cells all day, educational and welfare facilities unused, prisoners not delivered to courts for trial, police station cells overcrowded. It also means more pressure on prisoners, more suicides, greater risk of riots. The government is close to losing all control over management — and thus policy — in the prison service; and many of the Woolf reforms are stalled.

This breakdown of state control over prisons is the biggest single argument in favour of their privatisation. But the government has been lukewarm about privatising prisons, and has let the case go by default. The criminal justice bill initially allowed private contractors to run only remand prisons, and the government left it to its backbenchers earlier this year to press an amendment which extended this to all other types of establishment. So far the extra power remains unused.

Yet a dozen or more new prisons are expected to be completed and brought into use in the next few years. The government fears that the wholesale selling off of existing prisons in the state system might trigger a war to the finish with the POA, and today's ministers appear to have no stomach for such industrial ordeals. But the opening of new prisons on "green-field" sites, whose man-

agement and staff have yet to be appointed, is the ideal opportunity for a fresh start.

There is nothing immoral, illiberal or reactionary in prisons being run other than by state agencies, provided they are run well, and there is no intrinsic reason why they should be run badly. In the United States they are often better than average. The ill repute of private prisons dates from before the nationalisation of the system in the Prison Reform Act of 1878. That infamy arose from the way prisoners were charged for their own incarceration, not because of the principle of private ownership. Many state-run prisons (in effect, POA-run) stand in dreadful repute already: the private sector could hardly do worse.

The current industrial relations mess in prisons is nothing new. Its immediate cause is the Fresh Start programme, introduced in 1987, designed to end the extravagant overtime worked by staff in prisons which itself had been the cause of almost continuous industrial civil war. Fresh Start was reminiscent of various abortive attempts to secure union consent to "reform" Fleet Street in the 1970s. Since Fresh Start the POA has changed its point of attack from overtime to overmanning, demanding ever more prison officers. In pursuit of that goal, every reform or flexibility that the prison management proposes is blocked. Such is POA control in corridor and landing that if it says prisoners must stay in their cells all day, stay they do.

The Home Office cannot run a service like this. Its monopoly as a provider of prisons reinforces the POA's monopoly as a provider of labour. The only way to undermine it is by a plural and diverse system of locally owned and managed prisons, regulated by government and paid for by taxes, but otherwise left to get on with the job. Only this will England and Wales get a well run, reformed and enlightened penal system.

## SPOILING A SPORT

Rugby football is no game for sissies. Physical contact is of its essence. Scrums, rucks and mauls all depend on big men pushing other big men roughly about, arms and legs flailing. A rugby player who fears the tackle is even less use than the goalkeeper who fears the penalty. Commitment is total.

These essentials have been exacerbated by the game's increasing popularity. A handful of top players are amateurs only in name, commanding payments for off-the-field promotions no less generous than those that go to professional footballers. The present world cup competition itself is a £40-million event. Patriotism and the pocket: two of the most powerful human motivators work together to create a heady brew.

The world cup was bound to see rugby's most competitive side in evidence. But how much such authorised violence is tolerable? It exploded on Saturday. And hardly had the match in Dublin started yesterday than Ireland and Australia players were at each other's throats. England versus France was a hard game on the pitch, but worse followed when the referee, David Bishop of New Zealand, was assaulted in the tunnel.

In no game could such a development be more dangerous. Anarchy on the rugby field is checked only by the referee's authority, resulting in a constant break in the flow of play as penalty follows penalty. Such is the tension of the game that rugby players find themselves risking any number of penalties in their zest to win. Yet penalties are the only way of keeping a lid on the cauldron. If the referee's authority goes, the game is likely to degenerate into nothing but a brawl.

Many of the scenes witnessed on Saturday were crimes, and would be treated as such in the street or pub, or in any other game. The

rugby authorities are likely to punish those involved in Saturday's outrages, but they also need to examine the cause. The referee is becoming the most important determinant of the outcome of many matches, as penalties are ever more frequent. The laws are subject to widely differing interpretations. Southern hemisphere referees prefer rucks between players who are standing up. European referees let the ruck continue when they are on the ground. One ref's peccadillo is another ref's scrum and a third ref's penalty. Three kicked penalties bring nine points, more than two unconverted tries. In this weekend's world cup matches, tries (17) only just outnumbered penalties (16).

Rugby has a successful record in changing its rules. The discouragement of direct touch-kicking from outside 22-metre lines; the four-point try; the introduction of the free kick itself: these changes have made for a faster free-moving game. More changes are urgent. There must be more emphasis on open running play, hence even more points for tries or conversions. The laws governing rucks and mauls clearly need to be tightened. These licensed fistfights may sooner or later have to be banned, as in rugby league, at very least they should stop when a man falls with the ball to the ground.

Just as the free kick was substituted for the penalty for a technical infringement, so now there should be one-point penalties for minor offences, two-point for graver and three-point penalties for the gravest, imposed without hesitation on those who behave dangerously. This world cup was meant to be a glorious celebration of an underrated game. It is in danger of showing how much the game needs to reform itself.

## Thatcher letter to Gynge as evidence of ITV 'chaos'

From the Earl of Stockton

Sir, The disclosure by the managing director of TV-am, Mr Bruce Gynge, of his personal letter from Mrs Thatcher (report, October 18) repudiates the validity of other aspects of the Broadcasting Act, if the principal architect and overriding force behind the legislation now repudiates one of its fundamentals.

As one of many in both houses of Parliament who warned that a bill would produce the present absurd news position and found that, although we had persuaded the officials of the Home Office of our case, their better judgment was overruled by direct intervention from Downing Street, I now urge the new administration to think again, especially on the questions of the ownership of ITN, the inhibition of mergers between Channel 3 companies, and the exclusion of non-domestic satellite services from the law.

The question of the designated news provider is the most urgent, and the government should support the Independent Television Commission's view that the majority holding in ITN should be in the hands of the C3 licence-holders. There is no serious television network in the world that does not control its news provider, and unless the government rejects the mistaken Thatcher/Barnett concept — that the majority of shares may not be held by Channel 3 licence-holders — the BBC will be handed the serious news monopoly on a plate.

Far from opening up the market in commercial television, the Act has enhanced the subjective nature of the judgments by the ITC, both on quality thresholds and on business plans. These judgments, arrived at in apparently non-conflictual smoke-filled rooms, confirm the Alice in Wonderland nature of the system on which Alice herself has now done a U-turn.

Yours sincerely,  
STOCKTON,  
House of Lords,  
October 18.

From the Chairman of LWT  
Sir, Mrs Thatcher's mystification at TV-am's loss of the breakfast franchise is, to say the least, surprising. Under the rules set out in the 1991

Broadcasting Act, TV-am were bound to lose unless they were unopposed.

Why? First of all, TV-am were the prisoners of their own recent success and past history. They were far the most profitable of the ITV companies in terms of return on sales. They were capitalised on the day before the bid at £83 million — a level incompatible with a really competitive bid. Sunrise, the consortium of which LWT is a part, has an equity base of £12 million, and total capital of £27 million. Daybreak, who bid at a similar level to Sunrise, had a similar capital structure.

Secondly, TV-am operate out of studios and transmission facilities used — under-used — exclusively for breakfast television. TV-am's rivals both proposed to share these fixed assets, with LWT and ITN respectively. Their costs are significantly lower as a result.

Thirdly, the quality threshold for breakfast was, for a credible group, relatively easy to pass. And exceptional circumstances were never likely to be invoked.

None of this was fair on either the staff or the shareholders of TV-am.

Thames and the unions

From Sir Hugh Dundas

Sir, Reports of Mrs Thatcher's letter to Mr Bruce Gynge have referred to TV-am's defiance of the unions when, in 1987, it locked them out for several months and broadcast a service mounted by management.

It seems to have been forgotten that another and much larger ITV company, Thames Television — also, like TV-am, a victim of the new system of awarding contracts to the highest bidder — took the first really decisive step in combating restrictive practices which had been allowed to flourish for too long.

In the autumn of 1984, following extensive negotiations with its unions, Thames insisted on the implementation of changes in working practices and in new technology. However, there was undoubtedly a general expectation, not least on the part of the unions and their members, that in order to avoid the finan-

cial penalties of going off air, the company would ultimately back down.

What in fact happened was that the unions were told quite firmly that the company was determined to achieve its stated objectives and, when they accordingly withdrew their labour, the broadcasting of programmes was undertaken, successfully, by management.

It was a momentous decision, implemented with very great difficulty as well as very great determination by managers whose ingenuity and endurance were stretched to the limit.

The courage and good sense of Thames's board and management at that time undoubtedly produced incalculable benefits to an industry from which the company, together with TV-am, which followed Thames's good example three years later, is now to be banished.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH DUNDAS (Chairman,  
Thames Television, 1981-7),  
55 Iverna Court, W8.

## Need to reform trade marks law

From Mr Christopher Morcom, QC

Sir, On September 19 last year the government published, in a white paper (Cm 1203), proposals for the reform of United Kingdom trade marks law. Existing law in this field is still based upon the Trade Marks Act 1938, although in 1986 there came into force a long overdue amendment providing for the first time, for the registration of marks for services.

The 1938 Act was poorly drafted, and ceased many years ago to meet the needs of industry to any adequate extent. In certain respects the law still does not comply with our obligations under the Paris Convention of 1883.

The white paper was immediately welcomed among those who are concerned about trade marks. Not only did it include the changes which are necessary for the United Kingdom to comply with the EC directive for harmonisation of member-states' trade mark laws, adopted at the end of 1988; it went far further, making proposals for a comprehensive reform of the law and for enabling the United Kingdom to ratify the 1989 Protocol to the Madrid Agreement for the international registration of trade marks.

The government's expressed intention was to introduce legislation, on the lines set out, as soon as the parliamentary timetable permits. Despite earlier hopes, it now appears that the government does not intend to introduce the legislation until after the general election.

The implications are obvious: industry will continue to be deprived, for at least two years and probably more, of the proper means for the protection of its trade marks, which it so urgently needs if it is to play its full part in the EC and internationally.

The government should think again, and include these excellent and essential proposals in its programme for the coming session.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER MORCOM,  
1 Essex Court, Temple, EC4,  
October 16.

## Arts at British Library

From the President of the Royal Academy of Arts

Sir, I write to express my own dismay, and that of the council of the Royal Academy, at the government's decision to cut off funds for the commissioning of works of art for the new British Library, reported by Richard Cork (October 17). This raises important issues of principle.

The monuments of the past — in particular the great public buildings — have always been adorned with works of art which were among the liveliest expressions of the age in which they were built: the best architects (in modern times, no less than ancient) have always been mindful of this, and have welcomed the work of other artists in their own designs.

At the British Library, an exemplary scheme was launched by the then minister for the arts, as recently as May 1990. The national library is a national monument, and the British Library is probably the most important public building to have been put up in this country this century. The siting of the works was an integral part of the architect's plans; a distinguished group of persons was appointed to recommend and commission the works; and a modest sum of money was allocated for this purpose.

The government's decision provides little encouragement for the private developers who have commissioned works of art for their own projects with such success in recent years. Can the government really wish to set such a bad example to all? The decision should be reconsidered.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER DE GREY, President,  
Royal Academy of Arts,  
Piccadilly, W1,  
October 18.

## Christian route

From Mr G. W. Johnston

Sir, Canon Richardson and Mr Latham (October 15) put forward an interesting set of arguments to support the view that Christianity may not be the sole route to God.

At John 14:6 (New English Bible) Jesus says, "I am the way; I am the truth and I am life; no one comes to the Father except by me". I rather think it is safer to stick with Jesus's opinion on the matter.

Yours faithfully,  
GARETH JOHNSTON,  
3 Londonderry Gardens, Comber,  
Co Down, Northern Ireland,  
October 16.

## Early festivities

From Mrs Marion Higgs

Sir, I read today's report. "It may be balmy, but Christmas beckons", with considerable sympathy. My family and I booked a table for September 28 at our local Berni restaurant, in order to celebrate our daughter's 20th birthday and her imminent departure to university.

The Christmas cards (last year's, presumably) dangling from the ceiling, Santa's grotto and the fully decorated and illuminated Christmas tree next to our table somewhat spoilt the atmosphere.

Yours faithfully,  
MARION HIGGS,  
Hazeldean Cottage,  
North Waltham,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire.

## Cornwall's dilemma over proposals for relief road

From the County Surveyor of Cornwall

Sir, The proposed road improvements between St Austell and the A38, reported by Mr Binney on October 14 (early editions), are the result of an extensive study of south Cornwall's transportation needs.

The environmental issues have been fully taken into consideration in determining the alignment of the proposed route, nearly half of which would consist of widening the existing roads. We canvassed 25,000 local households this summer; of those who replied, 68 per cent expressed support for improved road links and 57 per cent supported the proposed route.

None of the alternative routes would solve the long-term traffic problems in the area, and each would cause severe environmental damage. All of them cross open countryside, affecting a large number of farm holdings, rural communities and nature conservation sites of county importance.

The proposed route would cross the edge of the parkland at Tregrehan, not the garden, as Mr Binney reports. Tregrehan fronts on to the busy A390 primary route, and we believe that the new road will cause no significant increase in noise levels, particularly given the extensive landscaping that would be carried out. We also believe that the scheme would not seriously interrupt the view around St Blazey Gate, as a Kew spokesman is quoted as alleging, and that it would provide safe access for visitors to the gardens.

Our proposals are at the initial feasibility stage, and a public inquiry will take place, should this prove necessary. All of these facts could have been made available to Mr Binney if he had taken the trouble to contact my staff before writing his report.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN MANSELL,  
County Surveyor,  
Cornwall County Council,  
County Hall, Truro, Cornwall.

From Dr A. L. Rowse, FBA

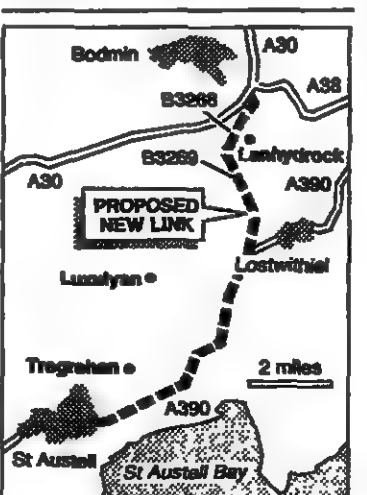
Sir, We here in mid-Cornwall who care for its beauty and amenities are appalled at the proposal to run a new road through the park at Tregrehan and on stills across the entrance to the lovely Luxulyan Valley. Both are as yet unspoiled.

The park at Tregrehan contains a collection of rare trees, treasured by expert gardeners. It has only recently been opened to the public, with much care and hard work, for the pleasure and instruction of the public.

If there must be yet another road, it should be kept to the north, and run through the china-clay country which is populous and where it could serve several villages along the route. Any such new road should be kept away from St Austell Bay, which has several resorts.

I do not think it would even be good business to spoil the beauty and amenities of the area, apart from anything else.

Yours sincerely,  
A. L. ROWSE,  
Trenarvon,  
St Austell,  
Cornwall,  
October 16.



## Dying voluntarily

From Dr Stephen Henderson Smith

Sir, If circumstances have made life intolerable (article, October 11; letters, October 16, 18, 19) suffering may have to be endured, but we are surely beyond extolling masochism for its own sake.

Nor is depression always the concomitant of voluntary dying. Many elderly would be happy to die at a time of their own choosing rather than go through the mill of residential home, nursing home, geriatric unit and psycho-geriatric ward. Antidotes to life have changed radically. We have absorbed cremation, contraception, abortion and genetic counselling. It is time we learnt to die at the right time, philosophically and even cheerfully. What a relief such an arrangement would be!

Yours faithfully,  
S. L. HENDERSON SMITH,  
2 Croftland Court,  
Oakes, Huddersfield,  
West Yorkshire.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

From Monsignor H. Wilson

Sir, Those who claim the right to dispose of their lives should ask themselves the question, can I destroy what I did not produce?

Yours sincerely,  
H. WILSON,  
Beechwood Convent,  
Broadway, Derbyshire.

## Nothing to celebrate?

From Mr Ken Broad

Sir, As Bernard Levin commented ("Salt of the earth flavour", October 10), Britain is virtually alone in never having had a meaningful revolution. I feel this has not been wholly to our advantage.

I have enjoyed four Bastille Day celebrations in various parts of France and at each one I had to explain that there was nothing comparable, at least not in England.

Last Quatorze Juillet, during an evening of splendid food and wine, of fireworks and dancing, a French friend turned and suggested: "Surely a revolution is but a small price to pay for a night such as this."

Yours truly,  
KEN BROAD,  
Manor Court, Church Aston,  
Newport, Shropshire.

## Once upon a time

From Mrs C. H. Middleton

Sir, Your report (October 14) on the financial prospects for Euro Disney, the theme park east of Paris, suggests that it is "in deference to the host nation", that the 15-storey edifice is also called "Le Château de la Belle au Bois Dormant".

I should prefer to believe that the reason for this decision is not the castle's location but the fact that "La Belle au Bois Dormant" (Sleeping Beauty), as well as "Cendrillon" (Cinderella), "Le Chat Botté" (Puss in Boots), "Le Petit Chaperon rouge" (Red Riding Hood) and others are the works of a Frenchman, Charles Perrault (1628-1703), who also wrote philosophical works.

These fairy tales were originally written for adults with a strong moral line. They were subsequently adapted for children and have been the equivalent of English nursery rhymes for countless generations of French children.

Yours faithfully,  
NICOLE MIDDLETON,  
21 Woodside Road,  
Woodford Green, Essex,  
October 15.





## COURT CIRCULAR

## BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 19: The Queen, attended by the Duchess of Grafton, the Lady Elton, the Right Hon Sir Robert Fellowes, Rear-Admiral Sir Paul Greening, Mr Robin Janvria, Mr Charles Anson, Surgeon Captain Norman Blacklock, RN, Air Commodore the Hon Timothy Elworthy, Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, and Brigadier Clive Robertson, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this evening from Zimbabwe.

Her Majesty was received at the Airport by the Earl of Airrie, KT (Lord Chamberlain) and Mr Roger Cato (Acting Operations Director, Heathrow Airport).

The Princess Royal, Honorary Colonel, University of London Very Contingent Officer Training Corps, this morning visited the Freshers' Assessment Weekend at Crowborough Camp.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

October 20: The Duke of York, Honorary Commander of The Sea Cadet Corps, today took The Salute at the Berkshire District Trafalgar Day Parade at Windsor and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr John R. Henderson).

Captain Alexander Baillie-Hamilton was in attendance.

## Memorial services

## Major-General F.N. "Chips" Grant

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major-General F.N. "Chips" Grant was held on Saturday at Ropley Parish Church, Hampshire. The Rev Royston Clark officiated. Mr Alastair Grant, son, read the lesson and Major David Goddard gave an address.

## Professor Michael Oakshott

A memorial service for Professor Michael Oakshott was held on Saturday in the Chapel of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. The Rev John

Sturdy, dean of the college, officiated. Dr Peter Gray, master of the college, read the lesson and Dr John Casey gave an address.

## Mr A.R. Burn

Evening devoted in memory of Mr A.R. (Robin) Burn was held on Saturday in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. The Rev Julian Bommer, Precentor, and the Dean of Christ Church, the Very Rev John Drury, officiated. Dr David Lewis, Student of Christ Church, and Canon Rowan Williams, read the lessons.

## Birthdays today

Mr Malcolm Arnold, composer, 70; Mr Geoffrey Boycott, cricketer, 51; Lord Brand, 68; Mr Norman Clarke, former secretary and registrar, Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, 75; Mr Dizzy Gillespie, jazz musician, 74; Lord Graves (Peter Graves), actor, 80; Mr Simon Gray, writer, 55; Lord Grievie, 74; Sir Maurice Hoodson, former chairman, British Home Stores, 73; Mr John Hull, former deputy chairman of Schroders, 66.

Mr Leo Kirch, German media entrepreneur and industrialist, 65; Professor Sir Roy Marshall, former vice-chancellor, Hull University, 71; Miss Nadia Nerina, prima ballerina, 64; Lord Orammore and Browne, 90; Sir George Solti, conductor, 79; Mr John Stevens, chief constable, Northumbria, 49; Lord Thomas of Swynerton, 60; Mr P.J. Toech, former chairman, Vauxhall Motors, 51; Mr Francis Warner, poet and dramatist, 54; Dr Elsie Widdowson, nutritionist, 85.

## Anniversaries

BIRTHS: George Colman the Younger, actor, London, 1762; Samuel Taylor Coleridge, poet, Ottery St Mary, Devon, 1772; Alphonse de Lamartine, poet and statesman, Mâcon, France, 1790; Alfred Nobel, inventor of dynamite, founder of prizes bearing his name, Stockholm, 1833.

DEATHS: Edmund Waller, poet, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, 1687; Arthur Schnitzler, dramatist, Vienna, 1931; Jack Kerouac, writer, Lowell, Massachusetts, 1969.

Horatio Nelson, Viscount Nelson, was killed in action at the Battle of Trafalgar, 1805. At Aberlona, near Merthyr Tydfil, a coal tip slid, killing 144, including 116 children, 1966.

## The Leonard Cheshire Foundation

Sir David Goodall, who has recently retired as British High Commissioner in Delhi, will succeed Sir Henry Marking as Chairman of the International Committee of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation on January 1, 1992. Sir Henry has been Chairman since 1970 and will remain a Trustee of the Foundation.

## The Times Atlas of World Exploration

The Times Atlas of World Exploration is published today by Times Books. It is a new and modern map with a text prepared by leading academics, it tells the story of 3,000 years of exploration and map making, but is available from bookshops priced £35.

## Marietta Tree

A memorial service for Marietta Tree will be held on November 12 at 11.30 am in the Grovenor Chapel, South Audley Street, W1.

## Nature notes

SMALL birds do not suffer much from high winds that they fly low, and when they are occupied, they turn to face the wind so that their feathers are not unduly ruffled. A magpie flying from treetop to treetop may find its long tail blown over its head.

Birds that need to move around have a harder time. Pink-footed geese that roost along the coast have to fly inland to feed in the fields; though they are powerful birds, they make slow progress against a gale, and prefer to fly high to keep out of gusts. Gulls going to and from the reservoirs where they roost get tossed about, but they are nimble on the wing. Great crested grebes that have gone down to the sea for the winter, and Slavonian grebes from the Arctic, seek sheltered

bays; long-tailed duck move closer in to the shore. Leaves are not easily blown off the trees until they are ready to fall; strong winds more often tear off twigs and branches, especially from aspens and Lombardy poplars. But first frost is having their effect: sweet chestnuts and beeches are daily becoming more colourful, and birch woods are already an ochreous yellow.

DJM

## OBITUARIES

## ALINE MacMAHON

Aline MacMahon, American stage and screen actress, died of pneumonia at her Manhattan home on October 12 aged 92. She was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, on May 3, 1899.

ALINE MacMahon's stage career ended where it began, playing in Pinero's *Trelawny of the Wells*. That was in 1975, opposite Meryl Streep. She had starred in the same play as a student at Barnard College, 56 years earlier.

In a career spanning over half a century Aline MacMahon had taken leading roles in countless stage productions and appeared in 43 films with actors as varied as Lionel Barrymore, Marlene Dietrich, Burt Lancaster and Joan Crawford. *The New York Times* drama critic Walter Kerr wrote of her in 1967: "I have been seeing Aline MacMahon for more years than I'm going to be honest enough or ungenerously enough to count. Always she has pleased me; sometimes more, sometimes less, nevertheless always."

She made her Broadway debut in 1921 in *The Mirage* but it was in 1926, with rave reviews for her performance in Eugene O'Neill's *Beyond The Horizon*, that her career really took wing. Noël Coward described her as "astounding, moving and beautiful," and *The New Yorker* said she "tempted one to rank her immediately as among the Olympians."

With her soulful, melancholy looks, Aline MacMahon was tailor-made for the dramas of the period. Among her more memorable plays were *Pictures in the Hallway*, *Once in a Lifetime*, *The Confidential Clerk*, and *All The Way Home*.

She went to Hollywood in 1931, making her screen debut in *Five Star Final* with Edward G. Robinson. In 1933 a Warner Brothers casting director placed her among the ten smartest actresses, along with Katharine Hepburn and Helen Hayes. She appeared, quite acerbically, in *Gold Diggers of 1933* and developed a nice line in playing attractive secretaries ready with a raised eyebrow and a wisecrack. She was photographed by Cecil Beaton and her beauty inspired a marble bust by Isamu Noguchi.



Later films included *Ah, Wilderness*, *The Lady is Willing*, *Babbalanza*, *One Way Passage* and *The Flame and the Arrow*. Though she never achieved screen stardom, she received an Oscar nomination in 1944 as best supporting actress for her role in *Dragon Seed* with Katharine Hepburn.

One of her best roles came well on in her career, when the melancholy in the face had deepened, with Fred Zinnemann's understated film, *The Search* (1948). This semi-documentary drama set in postwar Europe marked

Montgomery Clift's screen debut. As she moved into her sixties Aline MacMahon found time for classical drama and appeared in seasons at the Shakespeare Festival in Connecticut.

Aline MacMahon was the daughter of a broker turned magazine editor, and grew up in New York City. Her mother, Jennie Simon MacMahon, began a stage career of her own at her daughter's urging at the age of 53. She died in 1984, three weeks before her 107th birthday.

Aline MacMahon's husband, an architect, predeceased her.

## HIS HON JUDGE INSKIP

Judge Hampden Inskip, QC, circuit judge, died on October 1 aged 67. He was born on February 1, 1924.

HAMPDEN Inskip served with the Scots Guards in the second world war and was wounded in Italy, losing an eye. Thereafter, he wore a black eye-patch which gave him a piratical appearance and unusual authority on the bench. At the same time he remained wholly approachable and was always helpful and encouraging to young barristers. He was a gentle, modest and courageous man.

Inskip came from an established Bristol family with deep roots in the law. His father was Lord Mayor of Bristol and his uncle, Sir Thomas Inskip, became Lord Chancellor. Hampden Inskip was educated at Clifton College and King's College, Cambridge.

After the war he was called to the Bar and practised mainly on the Western Circuit. At the Bar he soon became known as a man of uncommon independence. He was elected a master of the bench of the Inner Temple in 1975. From 1970 to 1982 he was Recorder of Bournemouth and, later, a recorder of the crown court. He was also, from 1973 to 1982, a member of the criminal law revision committee. He became a circuit judge in 1982 and reinforced his reputation as a man of unflinching courtesy, compassion and firmness of principle.

Inskip's interest in his garden was paramount in his leisure time. He created, at his home in Hampshire, a garden of such an English style that it was the envy of all who were privileged to walk through it with him.

His other great interest was the Leonard Cheshire Foundation, which he first

joined in the early 1960s as chairman of the Le Court Cheshire Home. He became a trustee of the foundation in 1969 and continued to serve until 1986. His particular interest was always with the residents for whom he was a passionate advocate, especially the mentally disabled. His influence in forming and extending the foundation's involvement in this area is evidenced by the fact that there are now 16 homes for people with a mental disability. He wrote the foundation's basic handbook of care which was published in 1981, the Year of Disabled People, and later wrote its handbook on family support services.

His expertise in this field had already been recognised by his appointment in 1972 as chairman of a committee of enquiry into the care of patients at South Oxendon Hospital, Essex, following the death of a 65-year-old patient who was found to have suffered severe bruising to his face and stomach. An inquest cleared the staff of causing the man's death but, under Inskip's chairmanship, the committee of enquiry found—after hearing more than a million words of evidence—that gross overcrowding was a root cause of what was described as unnecessary violence by nurses on severely subnormal patients and that human failings by doctors, nurses and laymen on the administrative side were a contributing factor. The report, published in 1974, had a far-reaching influence on the approach to standards in mental nursing.

Inskip was appointed president of the Transport Tribunal in 1982.

Hampden Inskip married Ann Davies in 1947. She survives him, with a son and a daughter.

## DR ANTOINETTE PIRIE

Antoinette Pirie, former head of the department of ophthalmology, at Oxford University and director of the Nuffield Laboratory of Ophthalmology, died on October 11 aged 86. She was born on October 4, 1905.

"TONY" Pirie was remarkable in sustaining two careers, one as a biochemist and the other as an educator, working on malnutrition. Both careers were committed to the prevention of blinding eye disease. In 1971, shortly before her retirement from Oxford, she was asked by the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind to investigate vitamin deficiency in Tamil Nadu, Southern India. They were concerned with the global problem of vitamin A deficiency (xerophthalmia), responsible for an annual incidence of blindness of over a quarter of a million, in Asia alone. By this time she had built up a considerable reputation in the study of vitamin action in the eye, perhaps not surprisingly as a past student of Gowland Hopkins.

At Madurai, Tamil Nadu, she helped to set up a nutrition centre whose aim was to prevent childhood blindness due to keratomalacia, a disorder causing corneal scarring or perforation. Her approach was to identify the leafy vegetables rich in vitamin A which were available but unused in rural communities, and to instruct parents of affected children in their use, and in the establishment of kitchen gardens within their villages. This strategy has become

one of the major approaches to the prevention of blinding malnutrition.

Experimentally, she was able to show the role of white-cell derived proteolytic enzymes in this process. She also demonstrated that whereas the effectiveness of systemic vitamin A therapy might be blocked by lack of a specific plasma transport protein in protein-malnutrition, retinoic acid applied topically to the eye would by-pass the block. This was later confirmed clinically in the field. In 1990 she received an award for her life-long services to xerophthalmia from the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness.

Tony Pirie obtained a first-class degree in biochemistry at Cambridge, where she later gained her doctorate. Her post-doctoral work on tumour viruses was carried out at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund laboratories at Mill Hill. At the outbreak of war she was seconded to work with Ida Mann on the responses of the eye to war gases. This was an exciting period of exploration and discovery, although she always regretted the circumstances which made such research necessary. Ida Mann, a stimulating teacher and invigorating personality, was appointed head of the department of ophthalmology at Oxford in 1942. Antoinette Pirie joined her as a research assistant at the newly-built Nuffield Laboratory of Ophthalmology. They formed a dynamic team and applied them-



selves to the problems of ocular development, metabolism and toxicology. In 1946 they wrote *The Science of Seeing* partly to refute Aldous Huxley's "pernicious" book *The Art of Seeing* and partly to promote a better understanding of the visual processes and the nature of eye disease.

As a woman at Oxford in the 1940s, Antoinette Pirie found that, even with her PhD she was not regarded as a bona fide member of the university. She recounted later that "she went on sufferance to lectures, where women sat separated

in the front rows, wearing hats."

When in 1968 she received the Proctor Award, at its first woman recipient, she rejoined in the much-changed scene, with an international community of scientists working together towards common goals. When Ida Mann retired in 1947 Tony Pirie succeeded her as Margaret Ogilvie's reader in ophthalmology and was elected to a professorial fellowship at Somerville College, taking an active part in its academic life.

In the years that followed, Dr Pirie built up an enviable team of researchers concerned to unravel the major eye diseases by a study of the fundamental biochemical processes of the eye. Although initially almost every ocular tissue was examined, later research was directed almost exclusively to the lens and cataract. She made fundamental discoveries in the areas of lens metabolism, enzymes and lens proteins. She studied the changes in a variety of experimental cataracts and ultimately in human cataracts. Her forte was in the design and execution of simple experiments that answered important questions. Her work was highly original, partly because she did not believe in jumping on to band-wagons.

In 1956 she published, with her friend and long-standing collaborator, Ruth van Heyningen, *The Biochemistry of the Eye*, which remains a classical text in the field. It was difficult for a researcher to initiate a biochemical study of the

eye which had not been touched at some time in the past by her team.

In 1962 she held a symposium in Oxford on "Lens Metabolism in Relation to Cataract", which was attended by internationally-distinguished ophthalmic biochemists. Following the symposium, she established the International Committee for Eye Research which she chaired from 1968 to 1972. This was the forerunner of the International Society for Eye Research, which is now the single most important platform for eye research.

Tony Pirie was a person of conviction. She was committed to the scientific method and its capability to unravel the problems of human eye disease. She was equally committed socially. In Cambridge, she was for a time a Labour councillor. She was also an active member of CND who spoke out strongly at rallies about the hazards of radiation and nuclear fall-out. This was the subject of the book *Fallout* (1957) which she edited. At the time its conclusions had considerable effect on public opinion and she herself argued her viewpoint well on television. Her ideas, her forthright yet modest manner, her intellectual rigour and sensible approach and evident enthusiasm for her task were a constant encouragement to those who worked with her. She leaves her husband, N.W. Pirie, FRS, an authority on leaf protein and its relevance to the problems of increasing the world's food resources, and her son.

## Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.J. Hutchings and Miss S.H. Stafford  
The engagement is announced between Steven, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Hutchings, of West Hoochly, Sussex, and Susan, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Eric Stafford, of Colchester, Lincolnshire.

Mr W.J. Peachey and Miss E.A. Sims  
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Dr and Mrs Colin Peachey, and Ann, younger daughter of Professor and Mrs Andrew Sims, both of Leeds, Yorkshire.

Mr G. Plumpton and Miss K.A. Billing  
The engagement is announced of Gary, eldest son of William and Marjorie Plumpton, of Nuneaton, Warwickshire, to Kate, daughter of Cecil and Anne Billing, of Wolverhampton, Staffordshire.

Mr J.T.S. Robinson and Miss L.C. Blanchard  
The engagement is announced between James Tristram Spencer, son of Professor and Mrs R. Robinson, of Oxford, and Isabelle Charlotte, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M.G. Blanchard, of Broadway, Worcestershire.

Mr L.J. Smith and Miss C.L. Leadbetter  
The engagement is announced between Ian, only son of Roger and Maggie Smith, and Claire, only daughter of Michael and Cynthia Leadbetter.

## Plumbers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Plumbers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr G.W. Bambridge; Upper Warden, Mr J. Lawrence-Miller; Renter Warden, Mr G.E. Banks.

## Peter Stephens

## What the churches can learn from Thatcherism

THERE has been no prime minister or party leader since the war whose policies have been more criticised by church leaders than those of Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Her policies were sometimes vilified as much in the pulpit and in synods or assemblies as they were by political opponents at party conferences.

This is surprising as Mrs Thatcher has been described by a noted Anglican, Mr Michael Allison, as "the most avowedly Christian Prime Minister to have held office since Gladstone".

A year after Mrs Thatcher's resignation, it is worth asking what the churches can learn from Thatcherism. What elements are there in the biblical or Christian tradition which church leaders have neglected or ignored and which those policies sought to express? It is noteworthy that Mrs Thatcher did not regard the Christian faith as irrelevant to the policies which bear her name, but on at least three occasions she related her understanding of the Christian faith to politics. (In seeking to learn from Thatcherism church leaders would in a way be following the example of several of Mrs Thatcher's political opponents who have silently borrowed some of the policies which they had previously denounced.)

One neglected element in the biblical tradition is the creation of wealth. Church leaders constantly challenged the government in the 1980s on the distribution of wealth, a matter of proper concern, but almost totally disregarded the creation of wealth. In this they ignored a vital element in the biblical understanding of God, who is seen from

the opening chapters of the Bible as the creator. In the biblical tradition men and women are set in God's world to fill it and care for it; and in their work people share in his work as creator. An almost exclusive interest in the distribution of wealth shows a serious defect in theology as well as in economics.

The emphasis on the creation of wealth has been bound up with the market economy, which has transformed the living conditions of millions of people. But an essential part of the market or free enterprise economy is personal freedom and with it the acceptance of a measure of inequality. By contrast, societies which have emphasised state enterprise, with a stress on equality and a constraint on personal freedom, have stagnated or in some cases become poorer. In this area also there has been a conflict between Thatcherism and many church leaders. For while Thatcherism has emphasised individual or personal freedom, church leaders have emphasised equality and government action to achieve it. These leaders have forgotten that God has created people with an astonishing degree of freedom, and that they mature as human beings as they have freedom to make decisions.

In the political and social order people need corresponding freedom, for example, in the use of their time and money, in decisions about work, or leisure or education. The Thatcherite view was that some socialist policies, however well intentioned, create dependence. They remove from people areas of decision affecting them and their families, and to that extent stunt their growth.

The Rev Professor W.P. Stephens holds the chair of church history at Aberdeen University.

## Marriages

Dr R.C.D. Staughton and Dr C.P.M. Heath  
A service of blessing was held at the Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, on Saturday after the marriage on October 17 of Dr Richard Staughton, son of the late Mr and Mrs T.R. Staughton, of Kingshorpe, Northamptonshire, to Dr Clare Heath, daughter of Sir Mark and Lady Heath, of Bath. The Rev Robert Reiss officiated.

Mr R.D.C. Uniake and Miss C. West  
The marriage took place on October 17, at Chichester, between Robie Uniake, son of Mrs Jane Uniake and the late Lieutenant-Colonel R.D.W. Uniake, and Carinthia West, daughter of Lady West and the late General Sir Michael West.

Mr P.L. Gossage and Miss N.J. Athaus  
A service of blessing was held on Saturday at St Peter's, Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire, after the marriage of Mr Philip Gossage, elder son of Major and Mrs T.L. Gossage, of Sway, Hampshire, to Miss Nicola Athaus, daughter of Sir Nigel and Lady Athaus, of Swallowcliffe. The Rev C.J. Meyrick officiated.

Mr J.E. Youles and Miss C.L. Parkins  
Eventually on Saturday, October 12, the marriage took place, at Great St Peter, Edward Youles and Lucy Parkins.

## Lecture

Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, MP, delivered the annual Sir George Bean memorial lecture, sponsored by the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women, at the Royal Aeronautical Society yesterday. Mr David Bean presided.

To Place Your Advertisements







## NEW RELEASES

**CHATTANOOGUE (15):** Gary Oldman as a Florida patrol officer. Gloomy drama that afflicts post-production cuts. With Dennis Hopper, director, Mack Jackson, Oscar Mezzanin (0425 915563).

**CITY SLICKERS (12):** Overstretched sentimental comedy, with Billy Crystal and chutes solving mid-life crises during a cattle trek. Starring Daniel Stern, Bruno Kirby, Helen Slater, director, Ron Underwood. Ocean Lakeside Square (0426 915563).

**DEKALOG PARTS 5 AND 6 (18):** A devastating analysis of a senseless murder, plus a voyeur's sad tale — two of the best from Krzysztof Kieślowski's Ten Commandments cycle. Rango (071 871 8402).

**DOE (12):** L.A. bound actor (Michael J. Fox) becomes wealthy in the sticks. Glib comedy whose charm quickly fades, a Hollywood debut for British director Michael Catlett-Jones. Cannon: Baker Street (071 535 5772). Fathom Road (071 370 2833). Haymarket (071 438 1527). Oxford Street (071 436 0310).

**EDWARD II (18):** Reprising work of Marlowe's play by Derek Jacobi, while and images kept out at the audience. Steven Waddington and Andrew Thomas as star-crossed royal lovers. Sentiment as the epitome of Queen. Curzon West End (071 438 4805). Gate (071 727 4042).

**MANNEQUIN ON THE MOVE (PG):** Unlucky sequel to a 1987 comedy, though William Baldwin's stunts have mettle as the hero who falls for a burglar (Rita Wilson). Stewart Raffill directs. Cannon: Park Street (071 930 0531). Odeon: Kensington (0426 914668). Mezzanine (0426 915563).

**THE RESCUERS DOWN UNDER (U):** The star nose from Disney's 1977

## CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and where indicated with the symbol (C) on release across the country.

**THE RESCUERS** return to rescue a kidnapped boy. Unambitious cartoon feature for the easily pleased. Directors, Hendel Butler, Mike Gabron. Cannon: Chelsea (071 352 5395). Oxford Street (071 438 0310). Park Street (071 438 0310). Odeon: Kensington (0426 914668). Mezzanine (0426 915563).

**CURRENT**

**AUNT JULIA AND THE SCRIPTWITERS (12):** Gaudy led (Rena Rueda) falls for feisty aunt (Barbara Hershey), while a soap opera writer (Peter Falk) weaves major spots. Zestful treatment of Mario Vargas Llosa's multi-layered novel. Director, Jon Amiel. Odeon: Haymarket (071 438 1527). Fathom Road (071 370 2833). Haymarket (071 438 1527). Oxford Street (071 436 0310).

**THE COMMITMENTS (15):** Hard-boiled Duke (Laurence Fishburne) leads a soul band. Fresh, funny, and buoyantly played by a largely amateur cast. Directors, John Singleton. Camden Parkway (071 267 7034). Cannon: Chelsea (071 352 5395). Tottenham Court Road (071 438 4805). Odeon: Kensington (0426 914668). Mezzanine (0426 915563).

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## Failing to go the distance

**Opera**

**Aida**  
National Indoor Arena, Birmingham

**VULGARITY** and cynical commercialism have been part of opera at least since the age of the castrati, so one can hardly object that visitors to Vittorio Rosti's production are not getting an authentic operatic experience. On a stage looking like one of Mussolini's more grandiose railway stations, several million extras march up and down, unroll bales of gold lamé or stand about in awesome symmetrical arrays.

Undoubtedly the best moment comes in the middle of the Triumphal March, when suddenly the music stops and numbers of these bales break ranks, slipping off their silver cloaks and heaving to praise about in loin cloths, the ballet music being liberally sprinkled through the score for your greater entertainment.

Somewhere in all of this, happening a good few furlongs from your seat, a tiny blue smudge is singing Aida. This is Grace Bumbury. Or it might be Seta del Grande or Wilhelmina Fernandez. It really does not matter very much,

since the distance makes acting impossible (only the choric spectacle makes any impression, which, of course, is the point), and since the amplification is so poor one can barely hear.

On Friday, apparently, the tiny blue smudge was indeed Bumbury, having some trouble with wobble and a husky lower register from what I could tell, and the tiny gold one was Bruna Baglioni as a vocally uncomfortable Amneris. Carlo Cossutta as Radames, seemed to be in ringing voice: one could have wished to have been hearing him in some venue more appropriate than this vast new and ill-equipped sports hall. One could have wished, too, for more than a distant whisper from the orchestra, under Yuri Simonov.

Coming so soon after the Tosca at Earl's Court, which at least used the enormous space with flair and wit, this mausoleum of a production is particularly depressing. Those who saw it in London three years ago will know to keep away; others may be advised to spend the money on a videotape and, if they like productions, go to the Lord Mayor's Show, which is free and an awful lot more fun.



Grace Bumbury, a tiny blue smudge to parts of the audience

PAUL GRIFFITHS

**BECKETT:** Reviving performances from David and Robert Lindsay in Anouilh's play on the relationship between Henry II and the archbishop. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071 330 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm, 15mins.

**A BRIGHT LIGHT SHINING:** David Ashton's excellent, first full-length play about a Scottish village, wind, sun, rain, and a woman's life. National, Covent Garden, SW1 (071 476 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm, 14mins.

**THE CLOUTIER:** Michael Blouin as a depressed peasant in Marquis de Sade's study of the French Revolution. National, Covent Garden, SW1 (071 476 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm, 14mins.

**DANCING AT LUGNAT:** Brian Friel's Oliver Award-winning memory-play set in 1950s Donegal. Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071 867 1044). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sun, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 15mins.

**GOAT TOWN:** Reviving performances from David and Robert Lindsay in Anouilh's play on the relationship between Henry II and the archbishop. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071 330 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm, 15mins.

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## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London

**House full, returns only**  
**Some seats available**  
**Seats at all prices**

**THE PRETENDERS:** Eton and Blue battle for the Norwegian crown in a play about the power of the press. The Pretenders, SW1 (071 836 5123). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sun, 3pm, Sat, 4pm, 15mins.

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## THEATRE

**Little Eyolf**  
Orange Tree, Richmond

**IBSEN** is the grandfather of modern drama and, like many elderly persons, has his funny ways: tricks of speech that sound quaintly hollow, the ears of our more fluent generation, a machine of a tale that takes its long and ponderous route towards the point. This late play, written after *Hedda Gabler* and *The Master Builder*, speaks of vitally important matters: how guilt corrodes desire, how greed, and poverty too, will distort good judgment, and how our responsibility for others need neither be limited to the family nor spread thinly over

society at large. Our immediate neighbours are in want, if only we bother to think of them.

The famous Alfred Allmers (David Rintoul) has married for money; a sudden push of sexual desire draws his wife's attention from their baby, who promptly falls off the table. Remorse gnaws at the parents up to and beyond the crippled child's strange death in the forest. These are powerful incidents, but they are expressed through a machine of a plot so intricately linked and bolted that the human experience is squeezed flat by the mechanism.

Graham Greene once won, anonymously, a *New Statesman* competition for a parody of Graham Greene; but in *Little Eyolf* Ibsen parodies himself under his own name. Dearly chickens from the past come

flapping home to roost, flocks of them, from all quarters. "Oh, that's so long ago," protests Rita, Allmers's wife, well acted by Leslee Udwin on a sustained note of sexual frustration. But nothing is long ago; the past is so much with them that nobody can utter a remark without it rearing up in their faces.

So rigorously are the characters trapped in their inward-looking world, which this cockpit stage intensifies, that the way they communicate (using Michael Meyer's translation) becomes dangerously absurd. They repeat each other's phrases, presumably to indicate disbelief, but what may have suggested, in 1896, minds battling against the truth have become a verbal tic. Rintoul's performance is too measured, though perhaps the small auditorium is to blame for

JEREMY KINGSTON

## THEATRE

**Dublin Festival**

**JEREMY KINGSTON** has already noted how casually Dublin is taking its status as European City of Culture (perhaps it feels it always was one); and it must be admitted that no great sense of artistic occasion is generated by the latest theatrical offerings.

London players can judge the Field Day Theatre Company's latest production when *The Madman's Mac* arrives at the Royal Court in December. By that time the distinguished novelist and playwright Thomas Kilroy may have disintegrated the strands of whimsy, caricature, nostalgia, dark psychological probing and glancing political comment that are currently displayed, none too coherently, at the enchanting Gaiety Theatre.

The setting is promising: a rural community in Eire during the second world war when the republic's sensitive neutrality entailed its own state of emergency, rationing, home guard and occasional resentful theory that Churchill was trying to draw them in or starve them out. A British travelling theatre company arrives, having crossed the border from the north lured by the description of the "Free State"; it provokes envy, suspicion, love, hate and violence among the locals before moving on.

The strolling players recall the sort of theatre optimised by Aneur McManis (remembered in the programme notes by Harold Pinter as a young Cockney actor in the 1940s), whose suffering from black-stroke violence in London is echoed by the brutality of the local home guard, are never really integrated into the

Light performances: Bernadette Short in *The Power of Darkness*

Richmond some years ago; now Garry Hynes's production updates lust, murder and remorse, and the result occasionally recalls *The Postman Always Rings Twice* mixed with *Cold Comfort Farm*. The whole obsessive tragedy, the promise of redemption at its heart, is trivialised. The actors are hardly to blame for generating little warmth: the central couple give no indication of physical passion, perhaps because Sean McGinley's adulterous farmhand presents a nice bachelor far-removed by his mother and prepared to be dominated by the next forceful woman who comes along — certainly a valid element in his character but not the only one; no sign of the lazily lascivious hunk irresistible to women.

The Richmond production was breathless with tension as destiny plunged inexorably onwards; one scene in particular had the rich complexity of an operatic ensemble as the unwitting cuckold on his deathbed apologised for his harshness to the equally remorseful young man, neither of them aware that the old man has been poisoned by the women — a humdrum of a scene casually brushed past by this lightweight cast. Marie Mullen makes the terrible old woman into a wry, jokey cross between Widow Quin in *Playboy* of the *Western World* and Old Mother Riley.

Only Aisling O'Sullivan, a recent product of drama school in her third professional appearance, shows warmth, commitment and red-blooded humanity in a performance of great promise.

MARTIN HOYLE

Arts features, pages 12 and 13

## WORD-WATCHING

**HURTADO**  
(c) Francisco (1669-1725), one of the greatest of Spanish baroque architects, and the most exuberantly rich. His work is confined to interiors, which are of a fantasy unparalleled in Europe, mostly found in Granada, and dripping with marble, jasper, porphyry, and lapis lazuli.

**BUCRANE**  
(c) In classical architecture, a sculptured scroll, usually garlanded, often found in the metopes of a Doric frieze. A similar relief of a ram's or goat's head is called an *agricrane*.

**ENGLISH BOND**  
(c) A method of laying bricks so that alternate courses or layers on the face of the wall are composed of headers or stretchers only. English garden wall bond has three courses of stretchers alternating with one course of headers.

**TRIPURIM**  
(c) An arched wall-passage facing on to the nave, at a level above the arcade and below the clerestory windows, if there are any. The term is often wrongly applied to a tribune or gallery.

## WINNING MOVE

**By Raymond Keene**  
*Chess correspondent*

This position is from the game Poldak — L.N. Neustrom 1951. The white king is in a dreadfully constructed position. How did black carry out the execution in the most efficient manner?

**Solution: 1... Bg5 2... Nf5 3... Bxh2**



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## BBC

- 6.00** *Ceebeef* 6.30 *Breakfast News*  
**9.05** *Kilroy*. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject **9.50** *Hot Chicks*. Gary Rhodes prepares bread and butter pudding  
**10.00** *News*, regional news and weather **10.05 *Playdays* for the very young (r) **10.25 *The Family Ness*. Cartoon adventures of a monster family living in Loch Ness (r) **10.35 *Antiques Roadshow*. Emma, Hugh Souley recalls some of the arms and matrials items that have been featured on the show during the past 13 years including medals for gallantry won by a survivor of the Charge of the Light Brigade  
**11.00** *News*, regional news and weather **11.05 *No Kidding*. Quiz game for families hosted by Mike Smith and Kate Copstick (s) **11.30 *People Today*. With Miriam Stoppard, Adrian Mills and Mairi Maciver. Philip Hodson has advice for angst-ridden teenagers; Russell Grant works his way through the debs and diners of New York; and singer Chesney Hawkes talks about fame and fortune. Includes news, regional news and weather at 12.00, 12.20 **12.30** *Pebble Mill*. Judi Spleen welcomes Bernie Winters' widow Signy to the loyer, along with Schnitzeljogger the dog and Bernie's good friend Lionel Blair **12.55** *Regional news and weather*  
**1.00** *One O'Clock News* and weather  
**1.30** *Neighbours*. (Ceebeef) (s) **1.50** *Four Square*. A general knowledge quiz hosted by John Seach  
**2.15** *Knots Landing*. West coast spin-off from Dallas. This afternoon Val receives a letter from Ben who has been missing in Central America for a year **3.00** *Better Than New*. Albert Jackson and David Day with advice on renovating furniture **3.25** *The Hogan Family*. American domestic comedy series  
**3.50** *Picture Palace*. Animated series (r) (s) **4.00** *Helen Scram*. Picture book stories told by Sheila Hancock and Josie Auldred **4.10** *The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse*. Cartoon (r) (s) **4.25** *Piggy*. Animated musical fun **4.35 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles*. (Ceebeef) (s)  
**5.00** *Newsround* with Juliet Morris **5.05** *Blue Peter* presented by Yvette Fielding, John Leslie and Louise Jordan. (Ceebeef) (s) **5.35** *Neighbours* (r). (Ceebeef) (s). Northern Ireland: Inside Uster  
**6.00** *Six O'Clock News* with John Humphrys and Jill Dando. Weather **6.30** *Regional News* magazines. Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*  
**7.00** *Wogan*. Tonight's guests are Warren Mitchell, Robert Earl, singer Lloyd Cole and New York barber Bill Black (s)************



Consumer champion Lynn Faulds Wood, John Stapleton (7.30pm)

- 7.30** *Watchdog*. Consumer affairs series presented by Lynn Faulds Wood and John Stapleton. This week's topics are the insulin debate affecting thousands of diabetics; the IT's policing on television advertising; and holidays abroad that are more expensive for children than their parents  
**8.00** *Telly Addicts*. Philip Baines of Preston joins his three sisters in a test of television programme knowledge against the all-woman Gardner team from Cambridge. Noel Edmonds is the questionmaster  
**8.30** *Sea Trek*. In the third of their exotic underwater journeys, Marthe Holmes and Mike deGruy dive to the subaquatic help forests of California. (Ceebeef)  
**9.00** *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. (Ceebeef) Regional news and weather  
**9.30** *Panorama*: No Surrender, No Progress. John Ware examines the reasons for the breakdown of the talks on the political future of Northern Ireland. In the headline, Ireland's attitude suggesting prospects for an agreement? With contributions from Ian Paisley, James Moynihan, John Hume and Gerry Collins  
**10.10** *Cop Rock*. Innovative musical police drama series set in the Los Angeles police department, created by Steven Bochco who was responsible for *Hill Street Blues* (s). Northern Ireland: Now and Then **10.40** *Cop Rock*  
**11.00** *The Victorian Kitchen*. Ruth Mott cooks up a Victorian luncheon of pallate, poached eggs on spinach and gooseberry tart (r). (Ceebeef)  
**11.30** *See Hear!* A deaf Romanian woman returns to her family wedding. How have things changed since the fall of Ceausescu? (r). Northern Ireland: *The Victorian Kitchen*  
**12.00** *Weather*. Northern Ireland: See Hear!

## TV VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**  
 As London except 2.00pm-5.00pm Gardens  
**2.30-2.50** *Anglia News* 5.00-5.10 *What's On*  
**BORDER**  
 As London except 1.30pm-4.15pm  
 Spaceways 8.10-5.40 Home and Away 8.00  
 Lookaround Monday 6.30-7.00 *The High Road* 1.15-1.30 *Stacy* 1.30-1.50  
 Superstars of Wrestling 1.30-1.50 *Stephen King's This is Horror* 1.55-2.10 *The Night Visitor* 2.10-2.30  
**CENTRAL**  
 As London except 8.45pm *Carling of Age* 3.10-3.15 *Grand Tour* 3.15-3.20 *Central News* 11.25-11.30  
 91 1.30 *The Golden Fleece* 3.10-3.15  
**GRANADA**  
 As London except 1.30pm-5.15pm *Five* 8.00-8.30 *See Hear!* 8.30-8.45 *Granada Tonight* 11.30-11.55 *Granada* 11.55-12.00  
**ITV**  
 As London except 1.15pm *Coast to Coast*

## HITV WEST

As London except 1.15pm *Coast to Coast* 8.30-8.45 *Granada Tonight* 11.30-11.55 *Granada* 11.55-12.00

## HITV WALES

As London except 8.00pm *Wales at Six* 8.30-8.45 *Granada Tonight* 11.30-11.55 *Granada* 11.55-12.00

## SCOTTISH

As London except 1.00pm *Blackburners* 8.10-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 *Scotland's Top Ten* 1.15-1.30 *Stacy* 1.30-1.50 *Superstars of Wrestling* 1.30-1.50 *Stephen King's This is Horror* 1.55-2.10 *The Night Visitor* 2.10-2.30  
**TSW**  
 As London except 2.30pm *The Young Doctors* 8.10-8.15 *Van der Valk* 8.15-8.20 *Home and Away* 8.20-8.25 *TSW Today* 8.30-8.35 *Wild About the West* 11.30-11.35 *Central News* 11.35-11.40  
**TBS**  
 As London except 1.15pm *Coast to Coast*

## TVS

As London except 1.15pm *Coast to Coast*

## BBC

- 8.10** *News* 8.15 *Westminster*  
**8.30** *Forgotten Pilots*. David Lomax with the first of two programmes about the contribution made by the women who flew in the Air Transport Auxiliary for the RAF during the second world war (r)  
**8.00** *Daytime on 2*. Educational programmes  
**2.00** *News* and weather followed by *Storytime* (r) **2.15** *Songs of Praise* from the Sidney Myers Music Bowl, Melbourne, Australia (r). (Ceebeef) (s)  
**2.50** *Smoker*. David Vine introduces live coverage of two more round five games in the Rothmans' grand prix from the Hexagon, Reading. The commenting team is Ted Lowe, Jack Kameh, Dave Everton, Ray Edmonds, John Spence, John Virgo and Eddie Chappell. Including news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50  
**6.30** *DEF* It begins with Dance Energy presented by Normski. Club, fashion and music magazine including live studio performances from Driza Bone and Alan 7.00 *Standing Room Only*. Football magazine series presented by Simon O'Brien, David Baddiel and Rob Newman  
**7.30** *Open Space*. Thailand For Sale. Bangkok journalist Ing K looks at the reality behind the glossy holiday brochure image of her country and discovers that what was one of the world's most beautiful places has been poisoned by human waste. National parks are now sites for luxury hotels, native Thai are forbidden to use their own beaches to leave them free for the tourists and forests and mountains are destroyed in the drive for ever more construction. (Ceebeef)



Caribbean bound: dolphin Rocky heads for freedom (8.00pm)

- 8.00** *Nature: Must the Show Go On?*  
 CHOICE: Rocky, Missy and Silver are three "British" dolphins which under pressure from the wildlife lobby are being returned to their natural habitat in the Caribbean. But, as the even-handed report demonstrates, the debate about keeping dolphins in captivity is by no means clear cut. Critics include Ric O'Barry, who claims that the dolphin he trained for the television series Flipper committed suicide in his arms. A British vet, Bill Jordan, argues that keeping dolphins in a pool builds up stress and pool water is said to contain harmful chemicals. On the other hand Dr Margaret Kinnoska, author of a report for the British government, found no evidence of a higher death rate among captive dolphins than those in the wild. The people who run dolphins, such as Sea World in Florida, are naturally unrepentant, claiming that their shows are actually educating the public about the need for conservation. (Ceebeef)  
**8.30** *Flax Bride*. (1989) starring Shelley Hack, Sela Ward, Stephen Collins, and others. A predictable, but unassuming TV movie about four former college friends reunited, after an absence of 20 years, as bridesmaids at a friend's wedding. They take the occasion to renew friendships and tie up loose ends. Directed by Lila Garret. (Ceebeef)  
**10.00** *Headlines*  
 CHOICE: One of the main virtues of the Scottish comedy show that has been catching on in the UK is that it is not a joke in the literal sense and you rarely get the feeling that a joke is being prolonged long after the point has been made. The quality of the humour is inevitably uneven and the large number of writers means that there is no overall style. But the ratio of hits to misses is generally high and no one can accuse the show of not spreading its net widely. Among tonight's targets are plastic surgery, the TV industry, and the Scottish Government. The show is a lively and talented ensemble. The Scottish flavour is strong but the accents should cause no difficulty south of the border. (Ceebeef) (s)  
**10.30** *Newsnight* presented by Jeremy Paxman  
**11.15** *The Late Show*. Arts and media magazine. Tonight's edition includes profiles of sculptor Anthony Caro and music producer Adrian Sherwood (s)  
**11.55** *Smoker*. Further fifth round action from the Rothmans' grand prix, introduced by David Vine at the Hexagon, Reading  
**12.00** *Weather*

## BBC

- 8.00** *TV-am*  
**8.25** *Jeopardy!* Steve Jones hosts the quiz where the contestants provide the questions after he has given them the answers **9.55** *Thames News* and weather  
**10.00** *The Time ... The Place ...* John Stapleton chairs a discussion on a topical subject  
**10.40** *This Morning*. Family magazine series hosted by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Includes the first of five daily reports from Disney World in Florida and features on food, wine and gardening. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather  
**12.10** *News* and weather **1.10** *Thames News* and weather  
**1.20** *Home and Away*. Australian family drama serial. (Oracle) **1.50** *A Country Practice*. Medical drama serial set in the Australian Outback (s)  
**2.20** *Thames Help*. Jackie Sprackley previews her week's series looking at women in London who are working to create positive change to benefit other women **2.50** *Graham Kerr*. The former *Chasing Ghouls* comedian prepares a low-calorie omelette  
**3.15** *ITN News* headlines **3.20** *Thames News* headlines **3.25** *Families*. Soap linking the north of England with Australia  
**3.55** *The Scooby Show* presented by Matthew Corbett (s) **4.15** *Thy Toon Adventures*. Cartoon adventures created by Steven Spielberg **4.40** *Cartoon* starring Speedy and Sylvester **4.50** *Home and Away* (r). (Oracle)  
**5.00** *Home and Away* (r). (Oracle)  
**5.30** *Thames News* and weather  
**7.00** *The Krypton Factor*. The group B final of the brain and brawn competition in which four contestants face cerebral and physical challenges. Introduced by Gordon Burns, with celebrity guests Tony Robinson and Michelle Collins. (Oracle) (s)  
**7.30** *Coronation Street*. (Oracle)



Hoping for a jackpot: Michael Barrymore presides (8.00pm)

- 8.00** *Strike R Lucky*. Quiz game hosted by Michael Barrymore (s)  
**8.30** *World in Action: Sex For Sale*. An investigation into the twilight world of the world's oldest profession  
**9.00** *Film: That's Life* (1989) starring Jack Lemmon and Julie Andrews. Comedy drama about a hypochondriac architect, his single wife who may have a malignant throat tumor and their daughter who has boyfriends troubles. Directed by one critic as like watching a home movie belonging to people you dislike. Directed by Blake Edwards. (Oracle) (continues after the news)  
**10.00** *News at Ten*. (Oracle) Weather **10.30** *Thames News* and weather  
**10.40** *Film: That's Life* continued  
**11.35** *Video: Re-View '91*. Mariella Frostrup reports from the British Video Awards ceremony at London's Grosvenor House hotel  
**12.35am** *Sportsworld Extra*. Football action and highlights from the BMW golf open from Munich  
**1.35** *Film: I Cover the Waterfront* (1933, b/w) starring Claudette Colbert and Ben Lyon. Crisp doleful drama about a woman who is torn between loyalty to her smuggler father and the love of the newspaper reporter who is about to expose him. Directed by James Cruze  
**3.00** *American College Football*. Baylor v SMU  
**4.00** *Musical Special*. Highlights of the group Queen's concert in Budapest, recorded in July 1985 (r) (s)  
**5.30** *ITN Morning News*. Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 8.00** *Channel 4 Daily*  
**8.25** *Schools*  
**12.00** *Right to Reply*. A report on viewers' reaction to the television franchise decisions, with representatives of two successful bidders, Nigel Walsley of Carlton and Hugh Pile of Sunrise. Plus, a comparison of BBC and ITV news with CNN and Sky. Taking part are ITN's Stewart Purvis, the BBC's Peter Bell, David Feingold, CNN's London chief, and Sky's John O'Loan (r). (Teletext)  
**12.30** *Business Daily* presented by Susannah Simons  
**1.00** *Sesame Street*. Pre-school learning series  
**2.00** *Film: Nicholas Nickleby* (1947, b/w) starring Cedric Hardwicke and Derek Bond. Lacklustre version of Charles Dickens' novel chronicling the story of a Victorian schoolteacher, cheated out of the inheritance by a miserly uncle, who joins a band of travelling entertainers in order to sustain his family. Directed by Alberto Cavalcanti  
**4.00** *Loads More Muck and Magic*. The third in the ten-part organic gardening series. This programme examines how organic growers combine high technology with natural processes. In Lancashire, Douglas Elar uses computers and bees to grow greenhouse crops and in Lincolnshire Malcolm Horsley creates laboratory conditions for raising organic mushrooms (r). (Teletext)  
**4.30** *Fifteen-to-One*. Fast-moving general knowledge quiz presented by William G. Stewart (s)  
**5.00** *The Late Late Show*. Music and chat from Dublin, hosted by Gay Byrne  
**6.00** *Wonder Years*. Comedy drama series about growing up in the United States during the late 1960s. This week Kevin struggles over his English homework - writing his own obituary (r)  
**6.30** *Tonight With Jonathan Ross*. The first in a new series of the chat show. The guests are actress Brooke Shields and her mother Tina, who is also her manager. They talk about the pressures of child stardom and celebrity fame. And Alka Ballard who has a menagerie of parrots that imitate the famous  
**7.00** *Channel 4 News*. (Teletext). Weather  
**7.50** *Comment*  
**8.00** *Brookside*. Soap set in a Merseyside suburb close. (Teletext) (s)  
**8.30** *Inspector Morse*. The Secret of Bay 55. Romance between the bachelor inspector, but first he must solve the mystery of a murder in a multi-storey carpark and find a connection between a jealous husband, an unfaithful wife and a playboy architect. Starring John Thaw, Kevin Whately and Amanda Hillwood (r). (Teletext)



Aberfan: the tragedy that brought a village together (10.30pm)

- 10.30** *Aberfan: 25 Years of Experience*  
 CHOICE: It is 25 years to the day that a colliery waste tip collapsed above Aberfan in south Wales, sending an avalanche down the mountainside and burying the village school. The tragedy claimed the lives of 116 children and 28 adults. This moving film was made with the collaboration of local people and is narrated in their words. The aim is not to go back over the disaster as such but to show how Aberfan rebuilt its life. It helped that there was already a close community, ironically based on the industry that had built the tip. In the wake of the tragedy unity was forged during a two-year fight to get the remaining tips removed. Later there was a successful campaign to prevent a new trunk road being routed through the middle of the village. The story keeps coming back to coal. The pit closed in 1989. Some of the older folk say it did them no favours but the young must look elsewhere for work (s)  
**11.30** *Tonight With Jonathan Ross*. The second appearance of the evening for the energetic Mr Ross. He is joined by former porn star Robin Byrd who now hosts a New York cable television chat show on which her guests appear semi-naked (s)  
**12.00** *Worldsearch*. A behind-the-scenes look at the auditioning for a presenter to join Terry Christian and Amanda de Cadenet on *The Word* (r)  
**12.30am** *The Trojans*. A documentary about the staging of Hector Berlioz's opera *The Trojans* by three big companies - Opera North, Welsh National Opera and Scottish Opera. Ends at 2.00

## RADIO

- 6.35am** *Open University* (FM only)  
**6.55** *Weather*. News Headlines  
**7.00** *Morning Concert*. Choralworks (Theme and Variations). Op 18 No 5. Andrei Gheorghiu, piano. Delius (Brigg Farr: RPO under Thomas Beecham)  
**7.30** *News*  
**7.35** *Wagner* (Overture). The Flying Dutchman. Vienna PO under Wolfgang Sawallisch. Strauss (Horn Concerto No 1 in E flat, Op 44). Vienna PO under Claudio Abbado. Strauss (Horn Concerto No 2 in D minor, Op 103). Hans Knipfer (Sonata No 1). 8.30 News  
**8.35** *Composers of the Week*: Arnold and William Arnold. Arnold Overture. Tam O'Shanter. Philharmonia Orchestra under Arnold. Arnold (Quartet for Brass No 1, Op 73). Eugene Bruns. Williamson (Pas de Quatre Sans Ensemble). Genesee for Strauss in C, Op 48. Northern Sinfonia under Adrian Boult  
**8.35** *Morning Sequence*. Sibelius (Allegro). London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble under Christopher Larkin. Rimski-Korsakov (Allegro in B flat, Les Venzes). London Gabrieli Brass. Quartet in E flat: John McCabe, piano; George Lloyd (Evening Song); John Foster (Stacy). The Band under David King. Falla (Fantasia batica: John McCabe); Chalkovsky (Genesee for Strauss in C, Op 48. Northern Sinfonia under Yur Bashmet). 9.00 *Concert in Sheffield*. BBC Philharmonia Orchestra under Prokofiev (Sonata in C, Op 11b); Myaskovsky (Sonata No 1 in D, Op 12)  
**9.50** *Concert in Sheffield*. BBC Philharmonia Orchestra under Prokofiev (Sonata in C, Op 11b); Myaskovsky (Sonata No 1 in D, Op 12)  
**10.00** *News*  
**10.05** *BBC Lunchtime Concert*. Orchestral String Quartet live from St John's, Smith Square, London, performs Schumann (Quartet in A minor, Op 41 No 1); Haydn (Quartet in E flat, Op 71 No 3)  
**10.30** *Third Option*. The Dublin Theatre Festival (r)  
**10.50** *BBC Concert Orchestra* under David Coleman. Philharmonia, piano, performs, R. Liebermann (Swiss-Folk Song Suite); Hindemith (Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by

## RADIO

- 6.00am** *News Briefing*. Incl 6.30 *Weather* 6.10 *Farming Today*. Daily bulletin of rural news and weather. 6.30 *Today*. Incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 *News*. 8.55 *Weather* 7.25, 8.00, 8.30 *News* 8.35 *The Week on 4* 8.45 *Sic Transit* (8.55 *Weather*)  
**9.00** *News*. Start the Week with Melvyn Bragg and guests (s)  
**10.00** *East, Drink and be Merry* (FM only) (s)  
**10.05** *News*. Daily Service. From Rialto School, West Yorkshire  
**10.15** *The Bible*. Bernard Hill reads from Lamentations  
**10.30** *Woman's Hour*. Michael Buerk talks to Della Smith about food and family, also a report on the Kennedy race case; 11.00 *News*  
**11.30** *Money Box* Live with Vincent Buckley. Tel 071-530 4411 12.00 *News*; You and Yours  
**12.25** *News*. As Funny As It Used to Be. A celebration of Punch magazine, which reached its 150th anniversary in July (new series) (s) 12.55 *Weather*  
**1.00** *The World at One*  
**1.40** *The Archers* (r); 1.55 *Shipping Forecast*  
**2.00** *News*. Young Playwrights Festival 1991: So You Wanna Be A Rock 'n' Roll Star. Wendy Peterson's black comedy about a young rock guitarist whose career is over almost before it began (s)  
**3.00** *Young Playwrights Festival* 1991: Out of Season. Bob McKinnon's story of two teenagers' terrible secret (s) 3.55 *Weather*  
**3.30** *Conversations with Historians*. Continuing his series of talks with eminent historians, John Miller meets David Starkey, Lecturer in Tudor History at the London School of Economics  
**4.00** *News*  
**4.05** *Kaleidoscope*. Paul Vaughan celebrates composer Malcolm Arnold's 70th birthday, leads through some lesser-known writings of Oscar Wilde, and meets poet Grace Nichols (s)  
**4.45** *Young Playwrights Festival* 1991: L'Antichambre. First in a

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- series of short stories. Written by Ralfie Quigg, read by Rita Williams  
**6.00** *News*. 6.05 *Shipping Forecast* 6.10 *Today*. Incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 *News*. 8.55 *Weather* 7.25, 8.00, 8.30 *News* 8.35 *The Week on 4* 8.45 *Sic Transit* (8.55 *Weather*)  
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**10.30** *Woman's Hour*. Michael Buerk talks to Della Smith about food and family, also a report on the Kennedy race case; 11.00 *News*  
**11.30** *Money Box* Live with Vincent Buckley. Tel 071-530 4411 12.00 *News*; You and Yours  
**12.25** *News*. As Funny As It Used to Be. A celebration of Punch magazine, which reached its 150th anniversary in July (new series) (s) 12.55 *Weather*  
**1.00** *The World at One*  
**1.40** *The Archers* (r); 1.55 *Shipping Forecast*  
**2.00** *News*. Young Playwrights Festival 1991: So You Wanna Be A Rock 'n' Roll Star. Wendy Peterson's black comedy about a young rock guitarist whose career is over almost before it began (s)  
**3.00** *Young Playwrights Festival* 1991: Out of Season. Bob McKinnon's story of two teenagers' terrible secret (s) 3.55 *Weather*  
**3.30** *Conversations with Historians*. Continuing his series of talks with eminent historians, John Miller meets David Starkey, Lecturer in Tudor History at the London School of Economics  
**4.00** *News*  
**4.05** *Kaleidoscope*. Paul Vaughan celebrates composer Malcolm Arnold's 70th birthday, leads through some lesser-known writings of Oscar Wilde, and meets poet Grace Nichols (s)  
**4.45** *Young Playwrights Festival* 1991: L'Antichambre. First in a



AN AGEING and solitary widower, Great Uncle Sandy had developed certain eccentric culinary habits, characteristic of which was his practice with porridge, to which he referred in the plural as 'Them'.

To save himself the trouble of daily preparation, he would make enough in one batch to last him a fortnight.

One morning the residual crusts and scrapings looked so unappetising that not even Uncle Sandy could face 'Them'.

But at length he hit upon the notion of placing the one luxury he allowed himself, viz. a dram of luscious sherry-oak-aged The Macallan Malt Whisky, in front of his plate, promising himself he would drink it on completion.

Slowly and Painfully he forced himself to consume 'Them' and at last his porridge was empty.

Whereupon, with that truly Scottish tendency to defer gratification, he lifted the dram, observed 'Well, Sandy, you're gey easily fooled'...and poured it back in the bottle!

FROM THE FAMILY JOURNAL OF MR. C. CAMPBELL-HOWES, M'IRREARD, KINROSS.

The Macallan. The Malt.

COMPILED BY PETER ADER AND ALICE GUJRAIA  
 TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALL







## UK seeks accounting pact with America

By GRABAM SEARJEANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE chartered accountancy institutes are proposing a mutual recognition agreement between the British Isles and America under which American Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) practising in Britain or Ireland would be entitled to become members of the three institutes, style themselves chartered accountants and become partners in British chartered accountancy firms.

The proposal would reverse a spate of tit-for-tat protectionism that started in California in 1977 and has virtually barred chartered accountants from practising as auditors in America.

John Williams, the director of international affairs for the institutes' joint committee, will present the proposal today at the annual conference of American state accountancy boards in Hawaii. Mr Williams is critical of America's proposed Uniform Accountancy Act.

This will, for the first time, allow American accountants from different states to practise freely in all the United States. But it makes no provision for agreeing mutual recognition internationally.

Mr Williams says this is contrary to the spirit of the negotiations for extending GATT rules to professions and other services.

Chartered accountants were allowed to practise in America before 1977, when Californian law was changed after a challenge from accountants with qualifications from the Philippines who did not enjoy the same privilege. Severe and varying protectionist rules then spread across America.

Britain retaliated in 1984 under reciprocity clauses in the Companies Acts, so that American CPAs are no longer authorised by the trade secretary to practise here.

Mr Williams' proposal would restore mutual recognition with safeguards similar to those in the European Community's mutual recognition directive, but also give American CPAs the right to become members of the three institutes, which they could not do before.

## Barings silent on talk of deal

Speculation that Barings may take a minority interest in Dillon Read, the American investment bank, has met with a firm "no comment" from Peter Baring, chairman of the private merchant bank and securities group. Travelers, one of the largest American insurance groups, bought an 80 per cent stake in Dillon Read in 1986 for about £90 million, the remaining equity being owned by management. Dillon Read is one of the less spectacular and more respected American houses and has avoided the fluctuations of some rivals. The insurance group suffered heavy provision against property last year. Barings is thought to have made a tentative approach a few weeks ago.

## AWA applies

Arjo Wiggins Appleton, with an annual turnover of £1.1 billion, has applied to the Spanish stock exchange to make a public tender offer for Corporación Comercial Kan-gros, which has a turnover of £50 million.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

US dollar  
1.7200 (+0.0003)  
German mark  
2.9128 (+0.0031)  
Exchange index  
90.4 (same)  
Bank of England official  
close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share  
1995.5 (+41.6)  
FT-SE 100  
2601.1 (+46.1)  
New York Dow Jones  
3077.15 (+93.47)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave  
24894.82 (+737.10)

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# Surveys raise doubts of early recovery

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TENTATIVE indications of increasing business confidence are signalled today in several economic surveys, which suggest, however, that improvements in the economy are still faint and patchy.

Ministers will see the results as further support for their claims that the recovery is under way.

Later this week, the Association of British Chambers of Commerce will publish its latest sampling of business opinion. While this is expected to show an improvement in general industrial confidence, the chambers' findings will show that the economy is still in recession and any slow pick-up is unlikely until some time into next year.

Within a few days of the chambers' results, the key industrial trends survey from the Confederation of British

Industry is not expected to show large differences from the picture to be painted by the chambers. Meanwhile, three separate samplings of different levels of industrial opinion published today tend to support the view that as yet, only forward-looking indicators such as overall business confidence are showing any real sign of recovery, and then only tentatively.

In its latest high street business survey, the CBI sees the continuation of "flickering signs of an improvement". The confederation says that sales in Britain's shops, stores and supermarkets in September were above last year's levels, but improvement remained patchy.

Nigel Whitaker, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades panel, said: "The full impact of lower interest rates has not yet fed through to the high street. Consumers remain cautious in the present climate, holding back from

making larger and non-essential purchases."

Shops such as bookellers, electrical goods and household retailers are reporting sales still well below last year's levels, but clothing retailers have seen August's sales increase reversed.

The cautious improvement first recorded in last month's survey, which covers more than 15,000 retail and wholesale outlets, is finally feeding through to wholesalers, however. They report their first year-on-year increase in sales volumes since last September. In overall terms, shops and distributors are reporting their first positive balance in the volume of their sales - the numbers reporting an increase set against those charting a decline - for a year, with the August balance of minus 1 per cent moving to a positive 6 per cent in September.

Business volumes in the motor trade are expected to worsen still further.

The 31 investment capital group says that its enterprise barometer, measuring confidence among smaller, and often traditionally high-growth companies, has risen sharply: up from minus 8 per cent to 47 per cent, its highest since April 1989. Forty-nine per cent of the companies questioned expect to increase their turnover in the next quarter. While there has also been an improvement in investment prospects, in the main more companies are still expecting to cut investment than increase it, and further job cuts are in prospect.

In London, business confidence is at its highest for 18 months, according to the latest quarterly economic trends survey from the London Chamber of Commerce. But the chamber cautions against interpreting this improvement as evidence of an upturn.

Overall business activity in London remains weak, and the economy continues to contract, though the rate of decline has slowed. Jacques Gianssere, the chamber's chief economist, said: "Our indicators suggest that a significant reversal in the confidence of London firms has taken place. But it will only be when this is translated into sales that a real upturn will be experienced in the London economy. This is not yet visible."

## Trade gap likely to remain steady

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

OFFICIAL figures out tomorrow are expected to show that the improvement in Britain's trade balance has come to rest with the monthly visible deficit stuck at about £750 million.

City forecasts centre on a deficit of this magnitude on visible goods, only fractionally higher than the £743 million reported for August.

The current account, which also encompasses trade in invisibles, such as banking, insurance, aviation and shipping, is predicted to show a deficit holding steady at about £550 million. The Budget forecast for the whole of 1991 is for a current account deficit of £6 billion.

Although the government has been clearly pleased by the narrowing of the trade gap, ministers will be watching closely for signs that the deficit is starting to grow again as the economy moves out of recession.

If the recovery proves as robust as the government has forecast, City economists fear

that rising domestic demand could start sucking in imports rapidly once more. The very slow recovery that most economists foresee, meanwhile, suggests only a gradual pick-up in imported goods.

Exports, widely hailed as a success story over the past year, have benefited from a domestic recession, while key markets abroad, especially Germany, remained buoyant.

Germany is now slowing. Recovery in America could offset weaker European demand, although last week's mixed bag of American figures suggested that America's climb out of recession remains extremely patchy.

Rising motor industry exports, which have played an important role in improving the trade balance, could, however, prove difficult to sustain, according to some analysts.

There has only been one month this year when the current account has been in the black: in June, when there was a surplus of £23 million.

## Britain to force issue over debt

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITAIN will make a final attempt this week to preserve the international consensus on Third World debt after John Major's speech last week in Harare demanding more generous treatment of the poorest developing countries. The speech directly challenged the American leadership on this issue.

At a meeting in Paris on Wednesday, Treasury officials will spell out to the Americans what will amount to an ultimatum. Either the Bush administration will have to agree to Mr Major's plan to forgive two-thirds of the debts owed by the poorest developing nations, or Britain will go ahead regardless, probably taking with it most other European countries, Canada, Australia and possibly even Japan.

Britain's decision to break ranks with America so pub-

licly last week was an indication of the political importance attached by Mr Major to his speech in Harare. The timing was also conditioned by the frustration experienced by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, as the result of American tactics at the IMF-World

Bank annual meeting in Bangkok.

Mr Lamont tried three times to get references to debt relief written into the communiqué of the main policy making meetings in Bangkok - first at the Group of Seven meeting, then at the IMF interim committee and finally at the World Bank development committee. Each time his proposal was blocked by Nicholas Brady, the American Treasury secretary. Mr Lamont argued that the American position was inconsistent with the agreement by President Bush to sign last July's communiqué at the London summit. There, it was specifically agreed to press for more generous debt terms. This argument has cut no ice, apparently, with Mr Brady.



Brady: blocked move

Economic View, page 23

## Reebok Pump sales suffer a puncture

From PHILIP ROBINSON  
IN NEW YORK

IN THE days when money was easy, £100 did not seem unreasonable for a pair of high-technology plimsolls that said more about your street credibility than almost any other piece of clothing. Reebok's sneaker, called the Pump and launched two years ago, was not merely an example of 21st century footwear, but a fashion statement creating the kind of pressure that compelled youngsters to slide into the high-topped shoes and feel part of the crowd.

But analysts now fear that the Pump's unique feature, enabling air to be pushed into the ankle of a basketball shoe for added support, is no longer enough of a selling point. Wall Street wiped almost \$400 million from the value of Reebok last week despite a 60 per cent surge in

third-quarter profits and a 34 per cent rise in profits for the first nine months of this year. The jolt cost Stephen Rubin's Pentland Group of Britain \$60 million. Last year, Pentland sold the majority of its 31 per cent stake back to Reebok for about \$400 million. It retained 13 per cent of the shares, now worth \$350 million.

A decade ago, Pentland owned 60 per cent of what grew into America's largest athletic shoe-maker but has now ceded the title to Nike. Relationships between Pentland and Reebok soured. And, shortly after Pentland reduced its stake, Paul Fireman, Reebok's chief, who was for five years one of America's highest paid executives, took a 93 per cent pay cut, from \$14 million to about \$1 million. During the past five years, his pay,

bonuses and share options have totalled \$60 million. The near \$5 fall in Reebok's share price in two days last week was started by a private briefing in which analysts were told that advance sales of athletic shoes that incorporate the Pump mechanism were down 30 per cent for the first three months of next year. Heidi Steinberg, at Salomon Brothers, says this year's profits surge is exaggerated by comparison with poor figures last year.

Gary Jacobson, an analyst at Kidder Peabody, has grown cautious, but lifted this year's profit expectations by 5 cents a share to \$2.30. This implies that, after two years of virtual standstill, Reebok profits will rise 21 per cent this year. Others fear that, after years of stunning growth, Reebok's air-powered profits are about to suffer a puncture.

## BAe issue faces crucial week



Aiming to soothe fears: Sir Graham Day, caretaker chairman of British Aerospace

## Day will stay 'as long as it takes'

By OUR CITY STAFF

WITH just a week left to rescue British Aerospace's £432 million rights issue, Sir Graham Day, the caretaker chairman, will be reassuring institutional shareholders that he will stay in the job "for as long as it takes".

In a crucial series of meetings planned for the next five days, Sir Graham will be seeking to soothe fears that his non-executive chairmanships at PowerGen and Cadbury Schweppes, plus a number of other commitments, will lead to an early departure from BAE.

It is understood that Sir Graham would not welcome an extension of his chairmanship beyond his sixtieth birthday, just two years away, though he is not ruling it out. But he will be telling substantial shareholders that the search for a new permanent chairman may well require a year before the new man is effectively in harness and that he is prepared for such a timescale.

Uncertainty over Sir Graham's tenure is only one of the problems facing the issue after the collapse on Friday of Hilldown Holdings' £281 million cash call.

BAe shares are trading at 380p, the level at which new shares are being offered, leaving existing holders little incentive to take up their allotments.

Sir Graham and his advisers will be stressing that BAE shares are rated at bargain basement levels, showing an 8.8 per cent prospective yield, which is a 70 per cent premium to the market, asset backing of 730p per share and a price/earnings multiple of 11 times, a 15 per cent discount to market averages.

## Police question chiefs at Bass

By ANGELA MACKAY

POLICE have interviewed senior executives of Bass, the drinks group, as part of an inquiry into the relationship between Nazmu Virani's Control Securities and the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).

The authorities are interested in a deal two years ago when Control bought a chain of hotels in Spain from Bass for £45 million. According to a confidential position paper prepared for the Serious Fraud Office, Bass is still owed £23 million on the sale. About £11 million of this is believed to be due next September. But it appears £12 million fell due last month and has not been paid.

On Thursday the fraud office raided the offices of Control and the home of Mr Virani. The chairman said last week that neither he nor his two brothers, who are also at Control, had been involved in any wrongdoing. The shares were suspended on Thursday at 16½p.

After BCCI closed its doors in July, Control made provisions of £3.8 million related to monies held on deposit and rent owed on two properties BCCI leased from Control. At the time Mr Virani said this provision covered the group's total exposure.

Two other leading shareholders in Control are Gerald Ronson's Heron International, which owns almost 16 per cent, and British Airways' pension fund, which owns 5.4 per cent.

While there is no suggestion that Bass or its executives are under investigation by the authorities, the fraud office and BCCI's liquidators are trying to unravel several deals including the Spanish hotels deal.

Protection Association, which is based in London and represents 40,000 BCCI depositors in Britain, is objecting to proposals that will benefit American tax authorities and prejudice British and other claims on the collapsed bank (Colin Campbell writes).

Dr Adil Elias, chairman of the association, says that by levying fines and civil penalties, the American authorities stand to benefit at the expense of the general body of creditors. He is to lobby parliament about the plan.

## Northwest Airlines feels cash squeeze

From OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

NORTHWEST Airlines, the cash-strapped American carrier where Royal Dutch KLM owns 20 per cent and where British Airways is tipped to forge closer links, is under increasing financial pressure.

Analysis say the airline, America's fourth-largest, is short of cash after the collapse of a deal last week that could have given it \$740 million of fresh capital. The airline's \$3 billion-\$3 billion debt are due to a \$3.65 billion management buyout two years ago.

More cash is needed to fund ambitious plans to keep up with United, American and Delta. Last week Northwest agreed to buy the financially troubled Midway Airlines for \$174 million.

KLM, one of the original MBO backers, is in talks with BA but Northwest refuses to comment on its involvement. A link with Northwest would give BA significant access to the key American market.

It is unclear whether BA would invest in Northwest, but new US rules allow it to control up to 49 per cent of the votes.

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Vision, or "the vision thing" as George Bush used to call it when he was running for president, is unfashionable these days, especially in the Anglo-Saxon world. Britain under Margaret Thatcher, America under Ronald Reagan, and above all Russia under 70 years of marxism, are all deemed to have suffered from a surfeit of vision. Yet at last week's IMF-World Bank annual meeting - attended, of all people, by finance ministers and central bankers - vague stirrings of idealism could be clearly discerned.

The dour and laconic Norman Lamont came to life, for example, when the subject turned from the British economy to Third World debt relief or the potential of the Soviet Union. Even the Americans seemed to have caught the vision bug, when Nicholas Brady, the American Treasury secretary, compared the effort to reconstruct the Soviet state with the 20-year birth pangs of the American constitution. Despite initial appearances, it seems that the Group of Seven industrial nations is being sucked into "constructive engagement"

in the process of transforming the Soviet Union, just as President Gorbachev and Grigori Yavlinsky, his chief economic adviser, had hoped.

As both Mr Lamont and Mr Yavlinsky made clear in Bangkok, the G7 mission travelling to Moscow, next week, will not be going just to collect information but also tell the republican leaders the economic and political facts of life: above all, that there can be no aid or diplomatic recognition for any republic that fails to sign the new economic treaty or alternatively to abide by a constitutional divorce settlement acceptable to both the Russian government and the West. As Mr Lamont pointed out, a system based on private property cannot take root without a settled legal and constitutional framework. So until a constitution is agreed, there is little point in discussing market reforms.

Jacques Attali, the president of

## Wicks, Viceroy of Russia

### ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

the European Bank, was even more specific about the West's intentions. "We have to organise the republics into an economic agreement, even if it is only an agreement to separate. We have to tell them that it is impossible to finance any project without a clear understanding about their relations on trade, debt and defence."

"In the East, people used to accept discipline because of the Gulag. In the West, they accepted because of respect for the law. But, today, in the Soviet Union they are in a no-man's land and for the economy that is perhaps worse than either side."

In recognising constitutional uncertainty as the cancer that is now eating away at the hopes of

reforming the Soviet Union, the G7 is doing the right thing, but also taking a huge risk. In effect, it is inventing a new job of astonishing scope for Nigel Wicks, the British Treasury official, who will lead the G7 delegation. When he arrives in Moscow, Mr Wicks will be met with child-like hope, respect and fear by the warring regional princes. He will be greeted as Viceroy of All the Russias.

Of course, the G7 does not go in for such colourful terms. "The G7 cannot become a directorate for the whole world," Mr Lamont said last week, adding that the IMF and World Bank would remain the main points of contact with the Soviet Union. But this is where vision, or lack of

it, comes in. As the main conduits for help to the Soviet Union, the IMF and World Bank have a fatal flaw. They lack the critical political dimension. The IMF may set political constraints on public spending and monetary policy, but it is not in the business of designing legal systems, supervising secessions and writing constitutions.

Even today, after democracy and human rights have been explicitly written into the Articles of the European Bank, the IMF and World Bank consider such overt politicisation as totally out of bounds. This is inevitable as long as they remain global institutions. If the IMF continues to deal with Zaire, China and Iran, it cannot then apply totally different political standards to the Soviet Union simply on the grounds that most of the people there are white.

Who, then, is to represent the West in the restructuring of the Soviet system? The obvious

place to look is to Europe, whose post-war development has always been a more useful model for the future Soviet Union than the 18th century creation of the United States. As M Attali remarked in Bangkok: "If the Soviets cannot design an economic agreement maybe we could just translate the Treaty of Rome into Russian." Of course, Europe is now moving far beyond the original Common Market, but that is all the more reason to press for a new 40-nation area of free trade and political co-existence, embracing both eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, M Attali maintains.

At present, Pan-Europeanists like M Attali, Jacques Delors and Hans-Dietrich Genscher are ridiculed in London and Washington for their over-developed vision. But when Mr Wicks returns from his vice-regal mission to Moscow, what will he report? Perhaps that the Soviets now have a need even more urgent than bridging loans or technical assistance on central banking. They need a political vision.

## City prepares to prospect for gold in a sanction-free land

The South African economy is caught in a vicious circle.

Jon Ashworth looks at moves to widen trade links

PROSPECTS for a new wave of investment in South Africa soared over the weekend after agreement among the Commonwealth nations that sanctions will be phased out in stages.

"People to people" sanctions are expected to be lifted immediately, with the blessing of the African National Congress, allowing resumption of tourism, cultural and academic exchanges and air links. The news will please South African Airways which has been negotiating to recommence flights between Johannesburg and New York. But the economic sanctions which have battered the South African economy will remain in force for now. However, the softening of attitude, announced in Harare, will be welcomed in the City, where banks and stockbrokers are rapidly rethinking their stance on investment south of the Limpopo.

Less than a week ago, Robert Fleming opened a representative office in Johannesburg, following a lead set by Standard Chartered, in August. Adam Fleming, a director, has emigrated to South Africa with his family to oversee the operation that he hopes will leave the bank in the right place at the right time.

Mr Fleming, who is joined by Michael Oliver, a fellow director, said he hoped to act as a conduit for new business. "The world has sold out of South Africa and is, we think, now going to buy back into it." Robert Fleming subscribed for the first £10 million of Liberty Life's £110 million international share issue, un-



Emigrating: Adam Fleming hopes the bank will be in the right place at the right time

veiled in London this month. SG Warburg Securities, which is underwriting the Liberty Life issue, has been sending scouts to South Africa. Smith New Court, the broker, has traditional links with the South African mining houses and Hambros, which enjoys close South African links, is presently working on a major funding project. Cazenove, the broker, remained open for business in Johannesburg through the thick of the troubles.

Kleinwort Benson, the only

corporate finance. James Capel, the broker, is contemplating opening a representative office in Nairobi rather than Johannesburg, giving it immediate access to the Central and Southern African region. It could share offices there with Equator Bank, a fellow subsidiary of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

News of an easing of sanctions was warmly received at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. Mike Thompson, chief operating officer, said:

Improvements will not come without foreign investment, but foreign institutions want to see improvements

British bank in the syndicate for South Africa's DM400 million Eurobond issue in September, has a representative office in Johannesburg and has revamped its London team. Mark Wellesley-Wood, who left Kleinwort Benson last year to become chief executive of Geovor, the mining company, has rejoined the firm to provide research on South African stocks, working alongside Alex Dolbey and Mike Stutzaker in

"We welcome the optimistic shift in stance that the ANC is taking. From our point of view, sanctions are an absolute negative, and any change is to be warmly welcomed."

City observers give warning that investment will not pour in overnight. Bankers who used to go to South Africa just for a holiday are now taking their notebooks, but not their chequebooks... yet. Opening representative offices is the

willing to look now, but it is up to South African companies to promote themselves here."

The message has not been lost on the City's financial public relations firms, and competition for South African business is intense. Representatives are spending an increasing amount of time in Johannesburg, working their way down a list which includes giants like Anglo-American, Gencor, Barlows Rand, Liberty Life, Rembrandt and SA Breweries. Their antics have delighted local businessmen who are happy to be able to call the time after years of isolation.

Kent Durr, South African ambassador to London, will discuss South Africa's investment potential at a seminar in London on October 30. Fellow speakers include Rudolf Gouws, economist at Rand Merchant Bank, and Colin Hall, chief executive of Wooltru.

first step, but hard-core investment may be some way off.

The South African economy is caught in a vicious circle. Improvements will not come without foreign investment, but foreign institutions want to see improvements before they take the plunge. Inflation is running at between 15 to 17 per cent, and black unemployment has been estimated at anything from 40 to 60 per cent. Seven million people are out of work.

The failure of the Old Mutual South Africa Fund, which had hoped to raise US\$50 million to invest in South African blue chip and growth stock, has encouraged many potential investors to think again. A new upsurge in violence despite the signing of the recent peace accord has served as a reminder that South Africa is unstable, and will be for some time.

David Bamber, former economics editor of the South African Broadcasting Corporation, who is now based in London, said it was wrong to assume South Africa would open up to new investment overnight. "There has been a tendency on the part of South African companies to think people are opening up, but this is not the case. Yes, people are

## A taxing question on training

COMPANIES that invest in training should be able to obtain a tax rebate equal to 1 per cent of their national insurance contributions, personnel managers will urge this week.

A training strategy document, from the Institute of Personnel Management, will bring personnel managers into conflict with the government over training by insisting that the government, and not just companies or individuals, should play a substantial part of training costs.

Though the government funds employment-related training, through programmes run by Training and Enterprise Councils, ministers believe that both companies and especially individuals receiving training should meet much more of the bill.

But the document, to be launched at a meeting featuring Sir Bryan Nicholson, chairman of the CBI's education committee, and Henry McLeish, Labour's employment spokesman, at the IPM's annual conference in Harrogate, says that this cost should be shared by the three parties.

The IPM says that "it would not be unreasonable" for the government to pay for all off-the-job and general training

Philip Bassett reports that personnel managers are poised to come into conflict with the government

and education for all young people. Companies would pay for on-the-job training, and the trainees would contribute by accepting lower wages.

Employers would be able to obtain generous tax incentives to train, equal to a fixed proportion of their normal national insurance costs. Self-em-

The IPM is also proposing a reduction in the number of industry-led bodies setting training standards, and the setting up of a new independent forum to draw together all those involved in training.

Government ministers will be uneasy about the conclusions of the IPM's report, but Labour leaders will welcome its findings as a rejection of some of the government's most cherished beliefs.

Separate research, carried out for the IPM by Sussex University's Institute of Manpower Studies, will show no link between improved company performance and either performance-related pay or other forms of corporate performance management.



Sir Bryan: at the launch

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## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Diplomatic share issue

IN CHINA, if someone gives you a present, you must reciprocate. The tradition posed a diplomatic problem for Michael Marks and Sir Michael Richardson, respectively chief executive and chairman of broker Smith New Court. Lu Ping, the Chinese government minister responsible for Hong Kong, came to London this month to speak at a conference held by the firm on the colony's future. He presented Richardson with a porcelain vase and Marks with two hand-painted, gilded bowls. "The difficulty," Marks explains, "was that, according to Chinese etiquette, you are not supposed to give a gift that has cost more than the one given to you." The two City men pooled their brain power and came up with a clever solution - a framed certificate for 25 Smith New Court shares worth, without the frame, a little more than £30. "We

thought that, since he had pledged to keep Hong Kong going as a free trading nation, a share certificate, even if it was of only nominal value, would be appropriate," Richardson says.

### Ample liquidity

ST PAUL'S Tavern in Chiswell Street, a popular Whitbread watering hole for staff at nearby Merrill Lynch and Kidder Peabody, has been voted pub of the year by

County NatWest. Last week, County took 30 fund managers on a tour of seven City pubs, each owned by a different brewer, to bring them up to date with the sector. The star of the evening was Jeremy Baistone, of NatWest Stockbrokers, who consumed a gallon of beer during the tour. "We spent 40 minutes in each pub," says County's Graham Eddie. The Golden Fleece in Queen Street, a Greene King pub, was second.

BITTER victims of the Independent Television Commission's controversial reallocation of broadcasting licences have, according to themselves with the thought that "TV franchise" could be an anagram for "craven shift".

### Street of fame

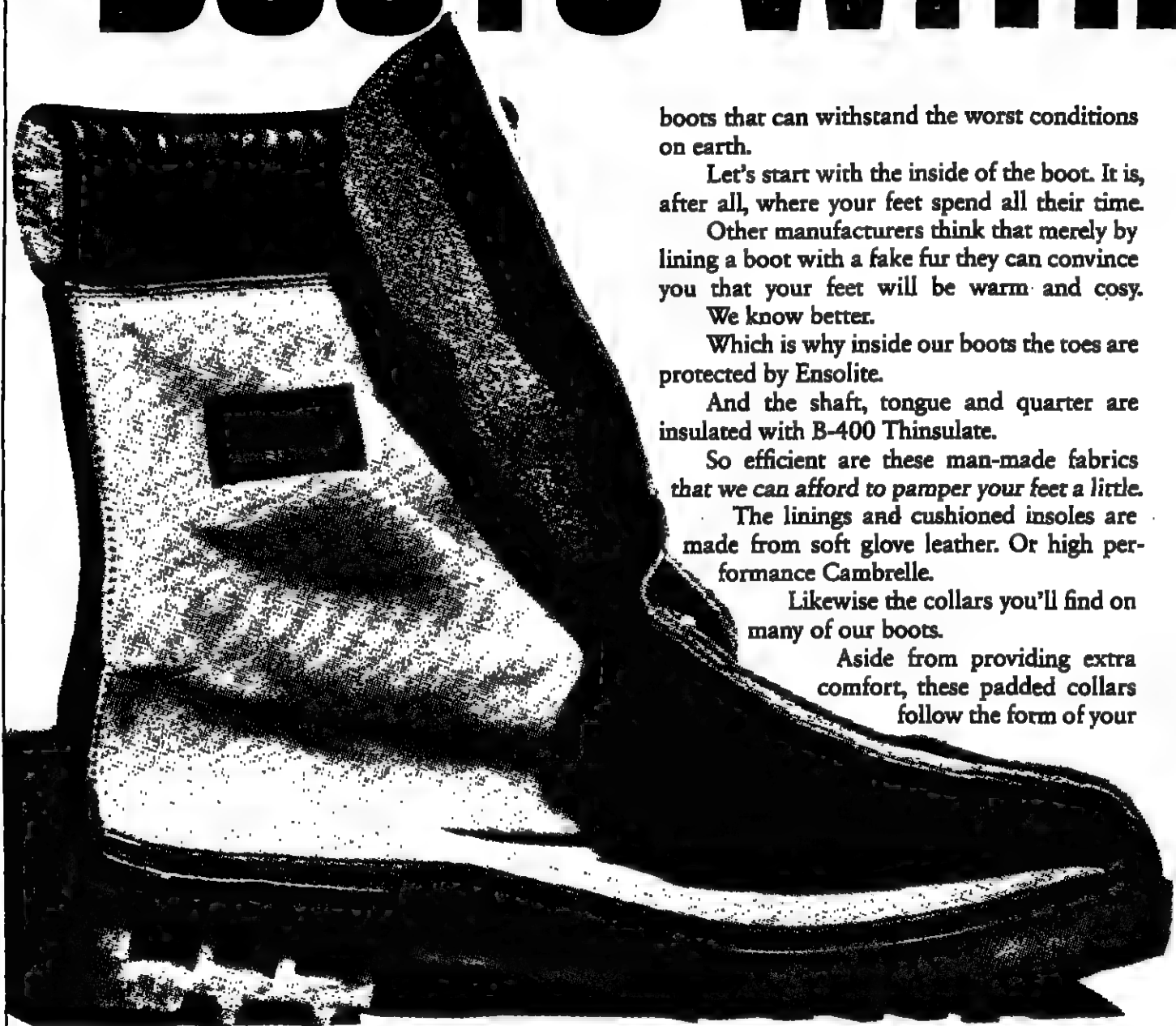
MIDLANDS Electricity, which broke into a new market when it set up Midlands Gas in March, seems to have a flair for publicity. The company is not yet allowed to



CAROL LEONARD



# WE DON'T LINE OUR BOOTS WITH FUR. WE LINE OUR BOOTS WITH BOOT.



boots that can withstand the worst conditions on earth.

Let's start with the inside of the boot. It is, after all, where your feet spend all their time. Other manufacturers think that merely by lining a boot with a fake fur they can convince you that your feet will be warm and cosy. We know better.

Which is why inside our boots the toes are protected by Ensolite.

And the shaft, tongue and quarter are insulated with B-400 Thinsulate.

So efficient are these man-made fabrics that we can afford to pamper your feet a little.

The linings and cushioned insoles are made from soft glove leather. Or high performance Cambrelle.

Likewise the collars you'll find on many of our boots.

Aside from providing extra comfort, these padded collars follow the form of your

happens water cannot infiltrate the boot.

Our determination to stave off the elements doesn't stop there.

To seal the inside of the boot from the outside world, we use soles made from a lightweight dual-density polyurethane. Or another highly resistant substance called Vibram EVA.

These soles are then permanently bonded to the uppers utilising one of Timberland's many patented processes.

We even add a fibre glass shank along the base of the boot for extra strength.

However good we are at lining the inside of our boots, it would all come to nothing if the outside wasn't up to scratch.

So we comb the country in search of tanneries that understand the importance we attach to the well-being of your feet.

A task made harder by the fact that we're not just picky, we're plain contrary.

We want leathers that are tough yet soft. Strong yet supple. Long-lasting but good-looking. A tall order, we know.

But we rarely come back empty-handed. Once in the workshops, the leathers are impregnated with silicone.

This prevents them drying or cracking with age. It also stops water seeping through. (There we go again.)

We also subject them to a machine called a Maser Flex, which tests waterproof leathers. Ours withstand 15,000 flexes, equal to the highest standards demanded by the US Military.

The same mentality that puts fake fur inside a boot can be counted on to compromise in other ways too.

Not us.

We dye our leathers right through so the colours won't scuff or flake off even after years of regular use.

We use solid brass eyelets. And D-rings made from stainless steel. Neither of them rusts, it's as simple as that.

Laces are made from self-oiling raw hide for extra flexibility. Or premium grade nylon when greater strength is required.

Nothing is over-looked in our desire to build a comfortable, long-lasting boot that protects your feet from the cold.

You may never experience temperatures as low as 20° or 30° below.

But if your feet are soaking wet and numb, who's counting?

**Timberland**

Have you any idea what happens to the body at 20° or 30° below?

The blood thickens. The brain slows. Your concentration lapses. Energy can drain from you faster than water from an emptying tub.

Of course, the body doesn't take this kind of treatment lying down.

Something called a neuro vascular impulse shunts blood away from your extremities to vital organs like the heart, kidneys and liver.

Which is very clever of it.

Except that a lot of people regard their extremities as pretty vital too.

Particularly their feet.

At Timberland, we make our living making boots and shoes for people who enjoy the great outdoors.

Which, as you can imagine, becomes the not-so great-outdoors when winter sets in.

So how do we protect our customer's feet from the body's natural desire to leave them in the lurch every time there's a cold snap?

We use every material known to man (and some known only to Timberland) to build

ankle to help stop the elements sneaking in. Keeping the cold air out and the hot air in could have the effect of 'cooking' your feet.

To prevent this, we often drop in a bootie made from Gore-Tex.

This remarkable man-made fibre has 9 billion pores per square inch, each one 20,000 times smaller than a raindrop but 700 times larger than a molecule of perspiration.

As a result, our boots get an extra layer of waterproofing and your feet can breathe more easily.

Even so, any foot couped up in one of our boots is bound to sweat a little.

So to absorb any perspiration, some of our boots are fitted with a special removable polypropylene insole.

Perhaps because Timberlands come from the rainy State of New Hampshire, we set a lot of store by things that keep feet dry.

For example, all the important seams on our boots are stitched using no less than four rows of nylon stitching. We then tape seal them with latex to make sure that whatever

This advertisement was created by Longue Delaney.

THE INSIDE of a boot is hardly the most promising of subjects. But this advertisement got you into it. Notice also how effortlessly it dispels our assumption that feet are better off in fur. This is what the written word can do. It builds bridges between products and people. Gets the message over fast and effectively. Timberland shoes used to be cultish. One newspaper campaign later, their name is on everyone's feet. Take a big step forward. Advertise in the newspapers.

**PEOPLE  
READ  
NEWSPAPERS**



## REPORTING THIS WEEK

## Currency movements will cushion Smiths

SMITHS Industries, the aerospace and medical equipment group headed by Roger Hurn, should announce a relatively resilient performance on Wednesday. Final pre-tax profits are expected to slip to £117 million, slightly down on last time's £120 million, according to Peter Deighton, at County NatWest WoodMac.

Earnings per share of 27p (27.5p) and an increased dividend of 10.7p (9.9p) are forecast. Market forecasts range from £112 million to £120 million. The small decline in profits anticipated by most will provide a welcome respite from an average decline in the industry of about 25 per cent.

The fall in profits will be substantially cushioned by currency benefits. Smiths, which makes nearly 40 per cent of its profits in America, will benefit from a move in the sterling exchange rate from \$1.85 in July 1990 to \$1.68 last July.

## TODAY

Amber Day Holdings, the discount fashion retailing group headed by Philip Green, is expected to report a jump in pre-tax profits to £9.8 million, against £3 million last time, according to Joan D'Olier at County NatWest.

The group forecast pre-tax profits of not less than £9.75 million and a final dividend of not less than 1.7p, making 2.6p (2p) for the year, at the time of June's rights issue.

The advance in profits will reflect a full contribution from What Everyone Wants, the Scottish discount clothing-toys chain that was acquired for £47 million in May 1990.

Interim: Bourne End Properties, Hicking Parnes, New Central Witwatersrand Areas, Vizcaya Holdings.

Finals: Amber Day Holdings, Clydesdale Investment Trust, Pacific Horizon Investment Trust, PFC International Portfolio Fund. Economic statistics: CBI survey of distributive trades (September); retail sales (September - provisional).

## TOMORROW

UBS Phillips & Drew expects the annual pre-tax profits at McKechie, the metals and plastics group, to decline to £21 million, down from £28 million last time, although the dividend should be maintained at 14.75p. Market forecasts range from £20 million to £23 million.

With the United Kingdom accounting for about 75 per cent of McKechie's trading profits and Australia about 14 per cent, the effects of the recession on both countries will affect the group in most areas.

Allied London Properties, the housebuilder and property investor, reported a pre-tax loss of £5.4 million (£3.9 million profit) in its first half after an £8 million writedown in the value of its house-building land bank and unsold houses.

Robert Fowles, an analyst at Kleinwort Benson, expects Allied to make a full-year pre-tax loss of about £1.5 million, compared with a profit of £6.1 million.

The net asset value per share is predicted to fall to about 135p (166p), although Kleinwort expects a maintained dividend of 3.53p. Market forecasts have a broad spread, with analysts anticipating anything from a loss of £2.7 million to a profit of £9.1 million.

All divisions are having a difficult time at Wolsey, the distributor of plumbing, heating and building products. Pannure Gordon believes



Resilient performance: Roger Hurn's Smiths Industries is expected to lift its payout

pre-tax profits will plunge to £73 million, down from £120.7 million last time. However, this is at the bottom end of market forecasts, which range from £73 million to £85 million.

Analysts project that pre-tax profits at UDO Holdings, the supplier of drawing office

equipment and services, will slip to about £9.1 million, down from £9.8 million.

Taxable profits at Pressac Holdings, the maker of electrical and electronic components, are likely to decline to £2.3 million, against £2.7 million, according to UBS Phillips & Drew. However, the

company, which is the world's leading manufacturer of printed circuits to control motor car dashboard instruments, should pay a maintained dividend of 2.4p for the year.

FR Group, the defence and aviation equipment maker, is expected to report a 13 per cent decline in first-half pre-

tax profits to £9.5 million, according to County NatWest. The dividend should be held at 2.2p.

The decline in profits will reflect delayed military expenditure, as about 65 per cent of sales are in the defence sector. Market forecasts range from £9.5 million to £11 million.

Interim: Danstrol International, FR Group, Petrocon Group, Rowe Evans Investments, Waterford Wedgwood.

Finals: Allied London Properties, Edinburgh Investment Trust, Exmoor Dual Investment Trust, McKechie, Pressac Holdings, UDO Holdings, Wolsey.

Economic statistics: Balance of payments, current account and overseas trade figures (September).

## WEDNESDAY

Attwoods, the waste management company, should unveil a healthy advance in profits, with Smith New Court going for £38 million, up from £28.5 million last time. In spite of a relatively dull performance in the United Kingdom, affected by the group's exposure to the south of England, the company derives about two-thirds of its profits from America.

Interim: British & American Film Holdings, Craig & Rose, Plaststeel. Final: Attwoods, City of Oxford

Investment Trust, Smiths Industries. Economic statistics: Index of production and construction for Wales (second quarter); construction - new orders (August - provisional).

## THURSDAY

Interim: Aberdeen Petroleum, Aberforth Split Level Trust (first quarter), Artflow Streamlines, Boxmore International, Geared Income Investment Trust, London American Ventures Trust, NEC Corporation, Radiotrust, Scottish Mortgage & Trust, Securities Trust of Scotland, SKF (AB) (third quarter), Toshiba Corporation.

Finals: Coltergen Inc, Govett Strategic Investment Trust, GR Holdings, Majestic Investments, Overseas Investment Trust.

Economic statistics: British Chambers of Commerce quarterly economic survey; building societies monthly figures (September); new earnings survey 1991, part C; analyses by industry.

## FRIDAY

Interim: Abstract New Thai Investment Trust, Blackland Oil, Castle Mill International, Clayton, Son & Co, Conrad Continental, New Thragmorton Trust (1993), Osborne, Vanburgh Currency Fund, Wensum.

Finals: British Assets Trust, Investors Capital Trust, New Frontiers Development Trust.

Economic statistics: Quarterly house purchase finance statistics (third quarter).

PHILIP PANGALOS

## Aberfoyle dissidents claim loan

By MARTIN BARROW

DISSIDENT shareholders in Aberfoyle Holdings, the embattled trading group that operates in Zimbabwe, say they have secured a loan facility to overcome short-term funding difficulties and held talks with two overseas trading houses that wish to inject some of their African interests into Aberfoyle.

The group, which hopes to unseat most of the board at an extraordinary meeting in London on Thursday, also said that Dr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwean vice-president, has welcomed its proposals to speed up the Mwenzi palm oil development, Aberfoyle's largest project.

The dissidents claim to speak for 40 per cent of Aberfoyle, including the 27 per cent holding of Koyo Owusu-Nyankye, a Ghanaian businessman who has led the two-year campaign against the board.

Aberfoyle's pre-tax profits fell from £5.3 million to £1.2 million last year. The company has suspended refinancing talks and is now dependent on funds provided by Ian Coates, its chairman. Aberfoyle's shares have fallen from a high of 62p in 1987 to 8p, capitalising it at £3.66 million.

## The best laser printers in the world.

**THE ULTIMATE CHALLENGE**

Not since the World's Best Field Festival has a printer been so challenged. The HP LaserJet III is the most advanced laser printer ever. It's the only one that can print at 300 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 1200 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 1800 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 2400 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 3000 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 3600 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 4200 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 4800 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 5400 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 6000 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 6600 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 7200 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 7800 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 8400 dots per inch. It's the only one that can print at 9000 dots per inch. 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It's the only one that can



## Portfolio PLATINUM

**Chairmen should ring 0254-53272**

Collection: 60001 Page: 0243372

Capitalization	Company	Price Friday	Ch'ge week	Gross div year	P/E ratio
\$1,187,000	Campan Oil	11 1/2	..	..	..
\$403,300	Cynla Pet	108	+10	20.7	1.8
\$225,000	Empire Energy	89	+10	..	..
\$93.1m	Exxon Corp. Louisiana	89	+10	..	..
\$11.0m	Fairhaven Int.	28 1/2	+4	..	..
\$164.5m	Gold Star	79	+8	1.5	1.9
\$,000,000	Hammer Bros. Inc.	75	+10	7.8	..
\$93.2m	Hess Corp.	222 1/2	..	..	..
\$101.2m	Hardy O & O	185	+10	..	..
\$172,000	Iskco Energy	16	-1	..	..
\$100,000	Iskco Energy	16	-1	..	..
\$,000,000	Do Unex	185	+3	23.8	27.1
\$284.5m	Monsanto	45 1/2	+8 1/2	..	..
\$10.0m	London	..	..	..	..
\$15.3m	So. States	30	..	..	..
..	Oil Search	31	+1	..	..
\$,918,000	Petroleum	35	..	1.7	6.2

22.2km	Proctor
488.5km	Ranger
25,497.0km	Bound Dutch FW

[illegible]

4,312,000 Gears Gross  
30 Bu Gold Diamonds

6,672,000	Goodheart	29	-1	6.7	1.7
312,000	Henderson	48	-1	1.7	0.0
12,000	Leone	229	-1	0.0	0.0
88,000	Marc O'Parr	288	-1	0.0	0.0
2,000	Nett Group	80	-1	17.0	0.0
6,736,000	Perini	100	-1	17.0	0.0
10,000	Reid	146	-1	8.2	4.6
1,000,000	Sho	87	-1	8.2	4.6
15,000,000	Seatch 101	19	-1	8.2	4.6
112,500	Shenck	109	-1	16.7	8.0
1,000,000	Sho	100	-1	16.7	8.0
1,500,000	South (J)	69	+0	1.0	4.3
7,500,000	Upper Water	100	-1	1.0	4.3
1,000,000	Walt	100	-1	1.0	4.3
125,000	Wice	87	-1	11.0	4.5
1,000,000	Wright (S)	100	-1	10.6	0.0
101,100	Wright	87	-1	10.6	0.0
3,861,000	Watersay Cam	41	-1	10.6	0.0

47.5m Area  
19.5m BEM Group

[illegible]

27.5m Estate Gen  
91.1m Brans Of Linc  
23.6m Bus Cost

4,507.00	Platicher	90	0	0	0	0	0
122.00	Pingora	60	0	0	0	18.0	0
140.00	Pine	70	0	0	0	0	0
410.00	Port Portland	120	0	0	0	15.0	0
141.00	Grecoeur	100	0	0	0	0	0
1,790.00	Land	100	0	0	0	0	0
17.00	Harbored	60	0	0	0	0	0
170.00	Hamber Countyland	60	0	0	0	0	0
200.00	Hammerton	80	0	0	0	0	0
775.70	Do "A"	800	0	0	0	0	0
1,000.00	Hanner Drive	17	0	0	0	0	0
0.00	Harbor	100	0	0	0	0	0
0.75	Holical	100	0	0	0	0	0
14.00	Holm	100	0	0	0	0	0
82.00	Hortling Ben	100	0	0	0	0	0
0.00	Jermyn	200	0	0	0	0	0
2,005.10	Land	100	0	0	0	0	0
250.00	Land Harbored Sea	70	0	0	0	0	0
2,131.00	Land & Mtns	100	0	0	0	0	0
1,000.00	Land Harbored	100	0	0	0	0	0
1,530.00	MSPC	40	0	0	0	0	0
0,005.00	Milwocvery	100	0	0	0	0	0
94.00	Milwocvery	100	0	0	0	0	0
94.10	Milwocvery	100	0	0	0	0	0

3,285,000 Moorfield Road  
22.5% Minneapolis

[illegible]

1,054,000	Warrington
240,400	Waterbury
	Water

SHOES, LEATHER				
Handmen			5.2	
Lambert Howells	290	●	18.3	8.3
Shoemakers' Co. Corp.	290	●	18.3	8.3
Shoemakers' & Fisher	31	-		
4184 Style	380	-	18.0	8.2

TEXTILES				
2,185,000 Alton	5			
127 Allied Text	3	●	16.1	3.8
1,812,000 Beckman (A)	77	●	8.4	8.13
5,672,000 Bolton Sp	7	-		
18.16 B. St. Michel	137		11.3	8.2
63,240 CRT Co.	122	●	3.0	1.8
63,196 Crompton Garments	19	●	1.5	2.4
407,728 Courtyards Textiles	40	●	10.7	4.1

5,085,000 Drummond  
5,963,000 Foster (Jahre)  
8,114,000 Foster

14.0m	Midwest Pentecost	152	..	11.3	8.6
8,189.0m	Jerome (2)	99	..	3.0	5.1
1.0m	Lehigh	97	+/-	3.8	5.1
30.1m	Lewis	305	+/-	10.5	4.0
8,929.0m	Lotter	30	..	1.1	1.1
5,973.0m	Lyle (2)	30	..	1.1	1.1
5,581.0m	Pennland 'A'	34	..	3.3	2.5
129.2m	Pennland	98	..	4.8	7.1
963.0m	SEET	23	..	4.8	7.1
45.4m	Strider	30	+/-	9.6	9.1
32.2m	Stoddard	28	..	1.3	1.3
18.0m	Tombstones	260	..	15.8	6.8
6,546.0m	West Coast	228	..	8.3	4.6
11.0m	Weyburn	8	..	15.9	5.7

TOBACCO					
5,830.0m	BAT	852	+/-	48.7	6.7
5,484.2m	Wabash "B"	2114	+/-	34.7	2.1

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888.50	ABC Air Ports	371	0-14	1.01	27.71
2,250.75	BAAC	455	+7	17.0	0.83
1,400.00	BAC	315	+2	11.8	0.84
46.25	Carlson (P)	210	+2	11.8	0.84
4,070.00	DeWitt & Newman	5	+2	-	-
8,000.00	DeWitt & Newman	323	-30	-	-
21.75	Bankrupt Warrants	323	-30	-	-
50.75	Barth (James)	45	-	7.3	0.3
8,000.00	Barth (James)	105	+2	7.3	0.3
601.50	Beck	125	+2	8.0	0.1
9,340.00	Jobs (A)	42	+1	7.3	0.11
24.50	Beck	15	-10	-	-
128.50	Marquand Ship	214	0-36	0.8	0.4
528.50	Mersey Dock	514	+206	7.1	2.8
15.00	NPC	34	-	7.6	3.2
222.50	NPC	34	-	7.6	3.2
15.00	Oncom Group	40	-	3.7	0.5
2,100.00	Oncom Group	40	+107	40.1	1.1
72.25	P & L 5.0%	34	-	3.7	0.1
195.40	Powell Duffryn	307	-3	60.7	0.1
2,100.00	Europe	74	-1	2.3	3.1
282.50	Ten	34	-	2.3	3.1
174.50	Tibbet & Britton	504	+46	13.0	2.0

398.5m Transport Dev  
5,875,000 Turnbull Scott

WATER					
1,057.00	Am English Water	360	+8	29.3	6.5
261.00	Am Piedmont	377	-8	24.8	8.0
1,553.00	North West	509	+10	24.0	6.6
1,172.00	North West Trust	520	+10	23.5	6.5
554.00	North West	535	+9	23.5	7.0
631.00	South West	535	+7	22.6	7.0
1,441.00	Thomas Water	574	+10	22.5	6.9
528.75	Utah Water	557	-4	20.0	7.1
750.00	Western Water	459	-1	20.0	6.9
740.00	Vermont Water	500	+8	23.0	6.2

● Ex dividend ● Ex split ● Ex both ● Forecast dividend ● Interest payment promised ● Price cut suspension ● Dividend not expected  
 \* yield exclude a special payment ● Pre-merger figures  
 Forecast earnings ● Ex other ● Ex rights ● Ex scrip ● Ex share split ● Two-free ● No significant data.

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Ex dividend = Ex at b Forecast dividend = Interm  
 yment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and  
 id exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures  
 recast earnings = Ex other r Ex rights = Ex scrip  
 are split t Tax-free .. No significant data.



# Race against time to place customers first

Competition to win the express delivery race is intense. The victors will be those investing heavily in computer technology says Rodney Hobson

Providing courier services is a highly competitive, aggressive business, ranging from the humble biker to the international carriers, all operating in an atmosphere that has been intensified by recession. This year, the industry has not grown, so companies have had to be more competitive.

The European express delivery market is worth less than a quarter of the £15 billion American market, possibly because operating a profitable pan-European network has been difficult. The European market, therefore, is dominated by a Big Four of international carriers - United Parcel Service (UPS), DHL and Federal Express from the United States, and the Australia-based TNT.

There has been much change in the European market this year. Federal Express, whose worldwide profits were halved for the first quarter of its financial year, says that business has held up well in the United States and Canada, while intercontinental traffic has fallen away. Earlier this year, Federal Express scrapped 1,850 jobs in Britain and this month it agreed to sell a large part of its British operation back to Littlewoods, the privately owned retailer. However, Federal Express is trying to build up its international business and has advertised heavily on British television, promoting its service to the US.

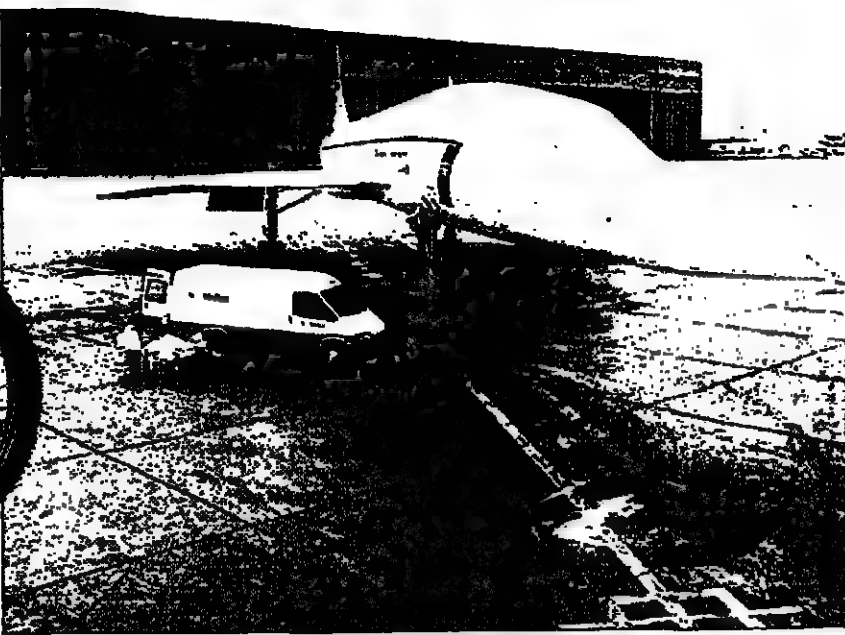
DHL has the same policy, Peter Davies, DHL's managing director, says his company's business has grown more than 20 per cent this year, thanks partly to increased traffic to Europe. He says: "When recession strikes, companies try to extend their markets by exporting." Yet he admits: "We have reorganised ourselves so that we can weather the storm better by concentrating on improving our level of service. We looked at where we were wasting money and could cut down spending without reducing the level of service."



On your bike: from humble push bikes, left, that can slip through the traffic jams to supersonic Concorde flights (right), courier services such as DHL, below, can deliver your express packages around the world

LEADING OPERATIONS IN THE UK				
Company	Parcels	Staff	Fleet	Branches
DHL	6.5m	1,700	650	30
Elan	3.8m	700	260	16
Federal Express	90m	7,000	3,000	60
Lynx	25m	3,600	1,400	40
Parceline	10m	2,500	1,000	30
Securicor	80m	7,000	3,000	148
TNT	85m	7,500	4,000	350
UPS	0.5m	1,705	252	30
Red Star	6.5m	1,500	500	255

\*Daily Europe wide



Mr Davies agrees that competition is tough and the difficult times have required a positive attitude. "Good marketing is part of our strategy," he says. "It would have been very easy to cut back on items such as advertising and training, but we took the view that we have to be out there in the market-place. I always treat advertising as an investment."

TNT has tried to avoid suffering losses in Europe by linking up with national postal authorities in Germany, France, The Netherlands and Sweden.

UPS is the smallest of the four groups in Europe. Although it delivers 11 million items a day in the US, it handles only 500,000 a day in Europe. The company is, however, making aggressive attempts to expand in Europe. A German operation was established in 1976, only a year after UPS moved outside the US for the first

time by setting up in Canada. It was 1988 before an Italian partner was found, and 1989 when a British acquisition was made.

This year, UPS launched new operations in Sweden, where it previously operated through an agent, and Belgium. The company has made 12 acquisitions during the past three years, the most recent being Prosi Transports, a French company. The European operations of UPS now employ 13,000 people and use 4,000 vans and trucks.

A part from competition among carriers, the express delivery industry faces competition from new technology, such as electronic mail and much improved facsimile machines.

Roger Corcoran, the head of TNT Express Worldwide's British operation, dismisses the sug-

gestions that electronic mail will stop the expansion of courier services and gradually remove the need for the express delivery of documents.

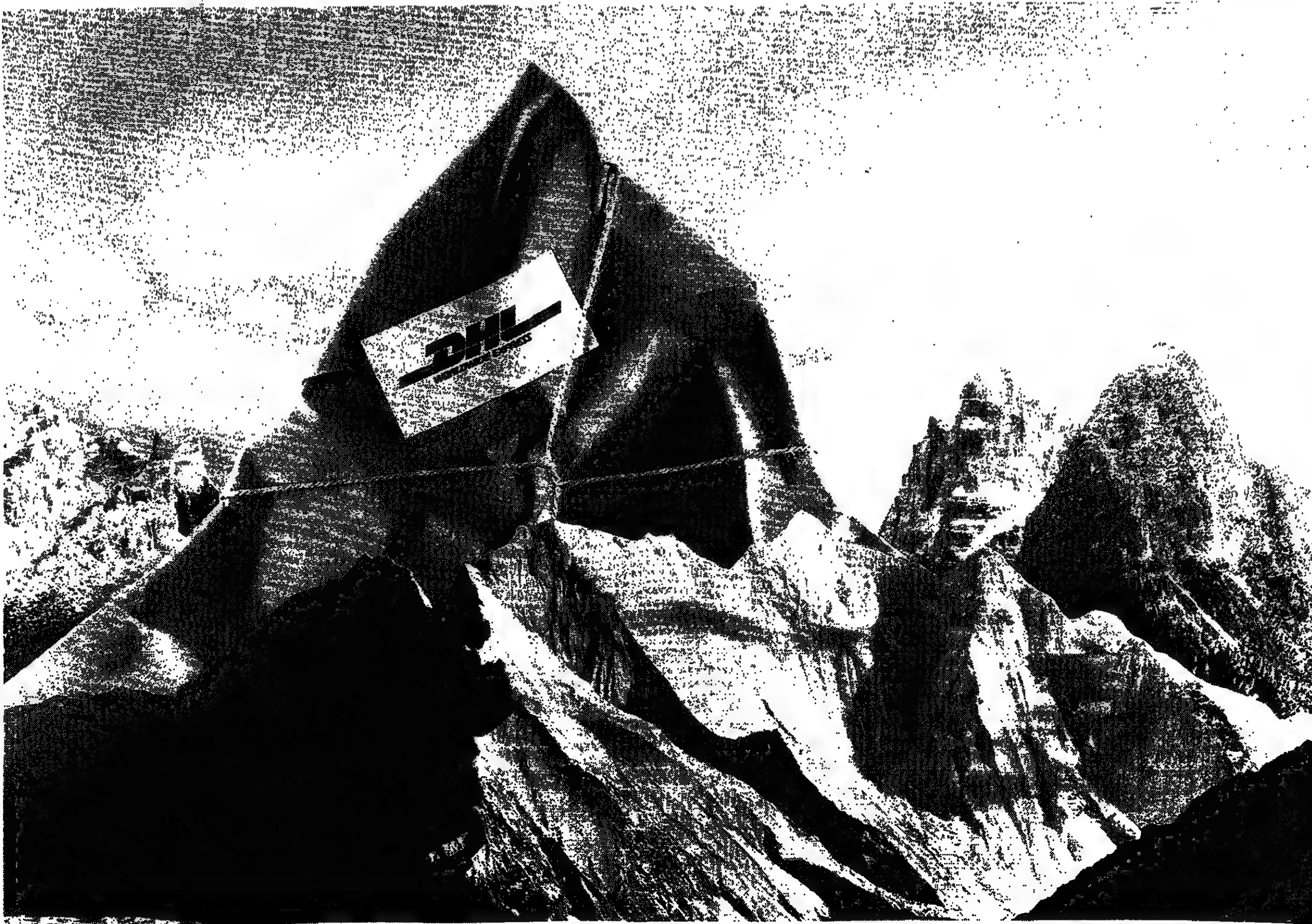
Mr Corcoran says: "I heard the same story almost 12 years ago and the courier industry has expanded dramatically since then, with volumes growing by up to 25 per cent year on year. The recession has had an effect in slowing the industry down, but we are still looking at up to 15 per cent growth. It is still a healthy business to be in and I cannot see either the courier industry or electronic mail replacing the other. I can see them complementing each other eventually."

TNT Express Worldwide is sufficiently confident of increasing demand that it is investing heavily in computer technology and information systems. "This is where the battle will be won in the

courier market. Investment in these areas is vital to all our futures," Mr Corcoran says.

The patchiness of the recession in Britain, both geographically and in terms of the services and industries affected, has helped the couriers. While some businesses in some areas are affected, others are thriving, providing a cushion for the couriers, whose clients come from right across the business spectrum.

Some carriers claim that the number of consignments has been maintained, but the average weight of packages has fallen. Charges, however, have gone up. Mr Davies says he has been able to increase prices in line with increased costs, although cost savings have meant that the increases have been kept below the rate of inflation. He says: "Competition is based on price and service, but for the customer, service comes first."



AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH.

Documents. Parcels. Freight. Mountains or molehills.



# From parcels to the Pope, call TNT

Rodney Hobson finds that the courier business has been successful in looking East for new business

As the economies of Eastern Europe gradually open to the West, their needs for efficient distribution services to link with the rest of the world are growing rapidly. As a result of this and Eastern Europe's outdated and often inadequate electronic mailing systems, many international couriers see the former communist bloc nations as a fertile area for business growth.

TNT Express Worldwide had started to move into Eastern Europe well before the Iron Curtain was torn down. The company has contributed towards establishing internal networks in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, making Eastern Europe an integral part of a pan-European network.

According to Roger Corcoran, TNT Express Worldwide's UK manager, it is continuing growth in world trade that will allow room for the industry to expand. TNT says its business in Eastern Europe is doubling every year.

John Monaghan, the general manager for network development, singles out Poland as the country with probably most potential. Import and export volumes for Poland are approaching those of the much larger Soviet Union. TNT has bought the courier business of Evimar, a company with which it signed a joint venture agreement last year, in order to deliver to 26 Polish cities and towns.



Networking in the East: Roger Corcoran, of TNT (left), sees European expansion, including the provision of transport for the Papal visit to Hungary, as vital to growth

That means a next-day service to Warsaw from anywhere in Europe, with an extra day added to locations elsewhere in Poland.

Maciej Bielicki, TNT's general manager in Poland, says: "Poland as a market is continuing to grow rapidly. During the past year the country has achieved growth rates of nearly 200 per cent in volume. Poland is commercially an extremely advanced nation."

Next month, Poland will be linked into TNT's on-line computer system as part of the company's development of its Eastern European network. TNT's operations in Hungary became fully operational in 1987. The local airline, Malev, provides air connections between Budapest and Cologne in Germany. The office network in Hungary was expanded last year, and the company even provided transport services when the Pope recently visited the country.

In February, a new international express delivery service was started in Czechoslovakia with offices in Prague and 14 other large cities.

Stephen Badger, TNT's regional network development manager, says: "Traffic levels were doubling even during the early months of the operation, without any marketing support."

"There was sufficient demand from Czechoslovakian businesses before we set up our operation."

Of other companies operating in Eastern Europe, UPS International Air Service, part of United Parcel Service, now operates in seven countries and in the former East Germany. The company has opened in Leipzig so that it now has six centres in the former communist part of Germany, which is seen as a link to the East as well as part of the unified nation.

Don Layden, the vice-president

for international operations, says: "Eastern Europe is destined to become a major market and offers enormous growth potential. Western companies looking to succeed in these new markets will be able to take advantage of the service."

UPS works in partnership with national agencies in some cases, for example, with Komtrans in Romania. This gives access to more destinations than a foreign carrier could hope to serve economically.

This growth is crucial to the company's growth in Europe, as it has lagged behind the other, larger carriers in developing its continental network.

With 65 per cent of the market, DHL claims to be the leader in Eastern Europe, giving it projected revenue of more than £6 million. It has set up operations in Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Romania, Albania, and this year, the Baltic states.

Even Yugoslavia has shown startling growth in recent months, despite the unrest, DHL reports. The escalating violence has discouraged people from travelling, but the exchange of information is still vital to business.

In the Baltics, Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, has been established as a gateway. Inward shipments are flown from Brussels to Helsinki and ferried from Finland to Tallinn for distribution by rail. DHL hopes to be handling more than 500 deliveries a month by the end of this year, intending to establish wholly owned Baltic companies in the next few months. As an example of the rapid changes in East Europe, at the end of July, DHL, with an office and five staff, even established a presence in Tirana, the capital of Albania, which was always the most isolated of the formerly communist countries.

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## How the smaller operators can still deliver the goods

Smaller companies whose international business has been squeezed by the big four have still managed to flourish in Britain by being flexible and looking for the right niche, Rodney Hobson writes. Some have even managed to offer a European service by linking up with similar smaller outfits in other countries.

The case of Elan seems to confirm that a place exists for smaller carriers. The company was set up by DHL in 1983 with the aim of building a European express delivery service specialising in overnight delivery of heavier items. The business grew but still needed DHL's financial support. Finally, in August, this year, the British end of the operation was bought out by the management.

Stephen Fasham, the European sales manager of Seabourne World Express, claims the smaller companies can score by trying harder. He says: "We treat our customers on a more personal basis. It sounds a bit old hat but our customers are names, not numbers. We visit them on a regular basis."

Mr Fasham claims that a smaller courier has greater flexibility to divert or turn back a van at a moment's notice to pick up an emergency dispatch.

He says: "We had a call from a major client, at 11.15am asking us to deliver a magnetic tape to Brussels as soon as possible. We picked up the package in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, at 11.30am and delivered it in Brussels at 2.40pm."

"I do not think you would get a better example of flexibility with speed and service."

Mr Fasham says it is important that the smaller operator can match the large courier in reliability. He says: "The client wants the earliest possible delivery time we can offer, but it has to happen every time, not just most of the time."

Couriers such as Seabourne are helped by the fact that most traffic comes into or out of London, which narrows down the number of set routes that must be operated.

They have also coped with recession by operating in niche markets. For example, Seabourne has a 24-hours-a-day media service directed at

the film and advertising industries delivering items such as proofs and reels.

Alan Soper, the managing director of Lynx, says the flexible operators are benefiting because customers no longer think of distribution as something that is tacked on to the individual business.

Lynx was set up as part of NFC, the former National Freight Corporation. Mr Soper claims the global operators cannot offer the same degree of flexibility and personal service, because they are geared up to conformity.

"A global network, with huge capital investment, will provide services that are mostly right for most of their customers most of the time," he says.

The advantage that relative size has given Lynx, and companies like it, is the ability to respond to the customer's precise requirements, providing solutions that are exactly right for individual customers all the time.

Mr Soper says the term "niche" can be misleading by implying a hole-in-corner activity, yet even smaller British operators can take advantage of opportunities in Europe.

"Although we may not have the same investment ability to buy in or establish new networks on the continent, by establishing partnerships with like-minded European carriers, we can provide the same flexible service on a pan-European basis," he says.

"Lynx is the UK partner in a consortium of 11 European express carriers providing time-guaranteed collection and delivery services to 13 European countries."

The consortium means that Lynx is not committed to a huge investment programme in Europe but can still provide a fast and efficient service through partners familiar with each territory.

Mr Fasham admits that life has been harder during the recession, partly because belt-tightening customers have consolidated shipments rather than sending out packets one by one as they are ready to go. However, he says: "We can live with the bigger couriers. To some extent we even benefit from their advertisements, because they create an awareness of the industry."

JAMES GRAY



Stephen Fasham: treating customers on a personal basis

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# Challenging time for the easy riders

Nobody knows quite how many motorcycle courier companies there are in the United Kingdom. Estimates vary from 200 upwards, but everyone agrees there are fewer than there were two years ago. The recession has cut turnover by between 15 and 20 per cent and the weakest have gone to the wall.

The worst period has been the last five or six months. Businesses that started on the crest of the wave in 1987 and 1988, many of them getting a great deal of work from the City after Big Bang, have failed to cope during the recession. One of the biggest companies, West One, has offered an unusual alternative for small companies that cannot make it on their own. Paul Meunier, West One's administrative director, explains: "We have made an offer to companies to come into our premises and run their business from here, without all the problems of their own accounts department and their own credit facilities." The companies—seven so far—retain their independence, but get core services from West One.

The impact of the recession on individual companies will have depended to some extent on the sector of the market in which they specialised. The mainstay of most companies is a big firm of solicitors or accountants, says Robert Doughty, the secretary of the Despatch Association, the couriers' trade body, but others may have depended on advertising agencies or photographic companies, clients that have themselves been hit hard by the recession.

Mr Doughty, who has run his own small company, City Bikes, for the past seven years, says clients are more careful now about bike use. "In the heady days of champagne and caviar, people would maybe get a bike to go down to McDonald's to pick up a Big Mac," he says. "Now, the people in the accounts department are a bit more wary about office girls who will just ring up and book a bike."

The courier business embraces many small companies. A fleet of 20 to 25 bikes is regarded as a good, manageable size by many operators. One radio circuit will

## Motorbike despatch businesses are facing rapid changes, reports Malcolm Brown

handle 20 bikes quite adequately. After that, you need more circuits, more back-up hardware.

Most of the companies are run and staffed by individualists. Their riders are usually self-employed subcontractors who supply their own bikes, petrol and clothing. On a typical central London delivery, the company will take 40 or 50 per cent of the fee and give the remainder to the rider.

"Prices do vary," Mr Doughty says, "but you tend to get what you pay for. If you want to pay less for your motorcycle delivery, rather than more, you are likely to get your delivery more slowly, and there is more chance that it will get lost."

One slightly cheaper service offered by some courier companies is bicycle delivery. Clients do not choose bicycles as an economy measure, Mr Doughty says. "In very dense traffic areas, a push bike is possibly quicker than a motorcycle, just in terms of its narrowness and its ability to get through traffic."

However, push bikes work only over relatively short distances. Mr Doughty says: "You are not going to say to your push bike rider, 'Take this package to Heathrow', because he is going to be fairly tired by the time he gets to Chiswick, and by the time he gets to Heathrow, the plane has probably left, which defeats the object."

One perennial problem for the courier companies is their safety record. The public view of motorcycle couriers is of men willing to ride at high speed and, if necessary, cut corners on safety. There are still regular calls for special controls.

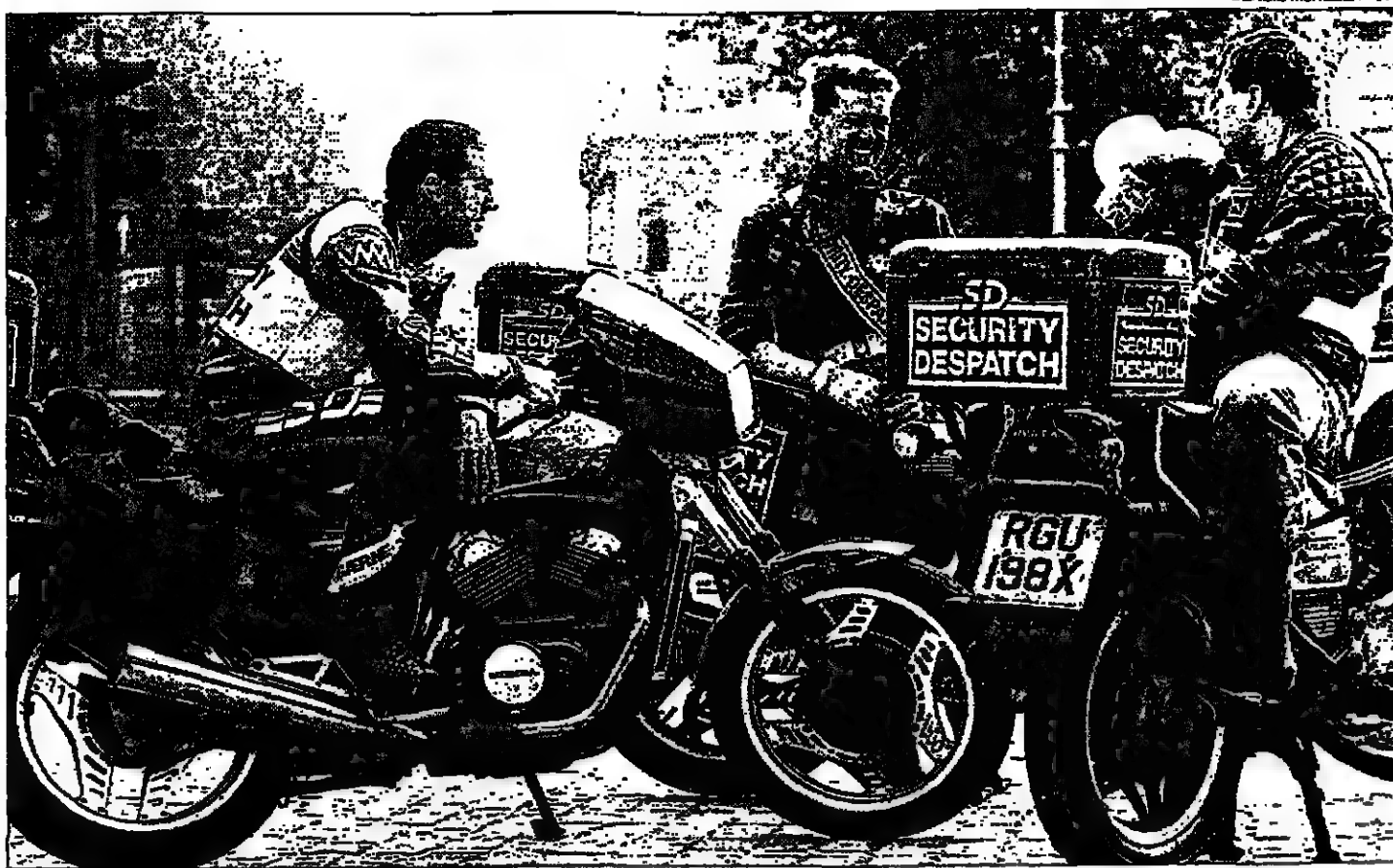
Mr Doughty believes the criticism is ill-conceived. His own company, for example, averages one reportable accident a year. "That is one accident per 20 riders, each doing about 100,000 miles,"

he says. "So it is one accident per two million miles. It amazes me, but there are very few accidents. Most of these guys have wives, kids and mortgages."

That last point is, for those who have followed the business, one of the most obvious changes of the past decade.

Ten years ago, young guys became motorcycle couriers with the intention of doing it for a few weeks, a month, six months, to get some money before they went off round the world," Mr Doughty says. "A lot of those people who started ten years ago are still doing it today."

A lot of them are now basically professional, full-time couriers. The average age of the courier has gone up probably from the low-twenties to the low-to-mid-thirties. That is quite a difference. These people are doing it for a living, long-term."



Riding out the recession: motorbike couriers are smartening up their image and safety record, as their companies fight to win work

## Airline revolution that is ready to take off

After one buy-in by international airlines, the courier industry is watching for more



Speedbird: BA's express service saves on costs

A consortium including two international airlines took an option on a large stake in DHL, the global express carrier, last year, a deal which set tongues wagging in the express business, Malcolm Brown writes.

Observers predicted that more airlines, many already providing carriage services for the express companies, would pile into the business. Nearly a year and a half later, the expected revolution has not started.

Nobody any longer says a precedent has been set by the DHL deal—under which the German airline Lufthansa, the Japanese airline JAL, and the Japanese trading company Nissho Iwai took initial stakes in DHL International with the option of building up to 57.5 per cent.

The DHL deal has great potential for all the parties involved. DHL, whose reputation has always rested on its pre-eminence in express documents, the lightest end of the express market, gets what looks like a firm foothold in the Japanese parcels market, which will soon be deregulated. This is especially important at a time when the documents

market is becoming mature and is facing competition from facsimile transmission and electronic mail.

The toe-hold in Japan is strategically important, allowing DHL to strengthen its presence in the Far East, an area in which one of its arch rivals, Federal Express, has been well represented, especially since its purchase of the cargo airline, Flying Tigers. DHL also gets a great deal of readily-available capacity on airlines that between them cover many prime routes around the world.

The airlines, for their part, get a neat piece of diversification into a closely allied business that allows them to use their capacity to the full.

The DHL deal is the "big bang" approach: the airlines are buying into the express business at one go by taking a big slice of a leading company. The indications are that there will be more tie-ups between the airlines and the express couriers, but that terms will vary widely.

A less dramatic approach is that of Air France, which has opted for organic growth. Through its subsidiary, Sodexi, it is offering a door-to-door express service precisely like that of the established courier companies. Sodexi has a joint venture agreement with the Birmingham-based carrier, WPS, and is expanding through similar deals.

One of the concerns of airlines has been that, if they set up as express couriers under their own names, they may alienate express carriers or freight forwarders that are existing customers who would see them as a threat to their own business.

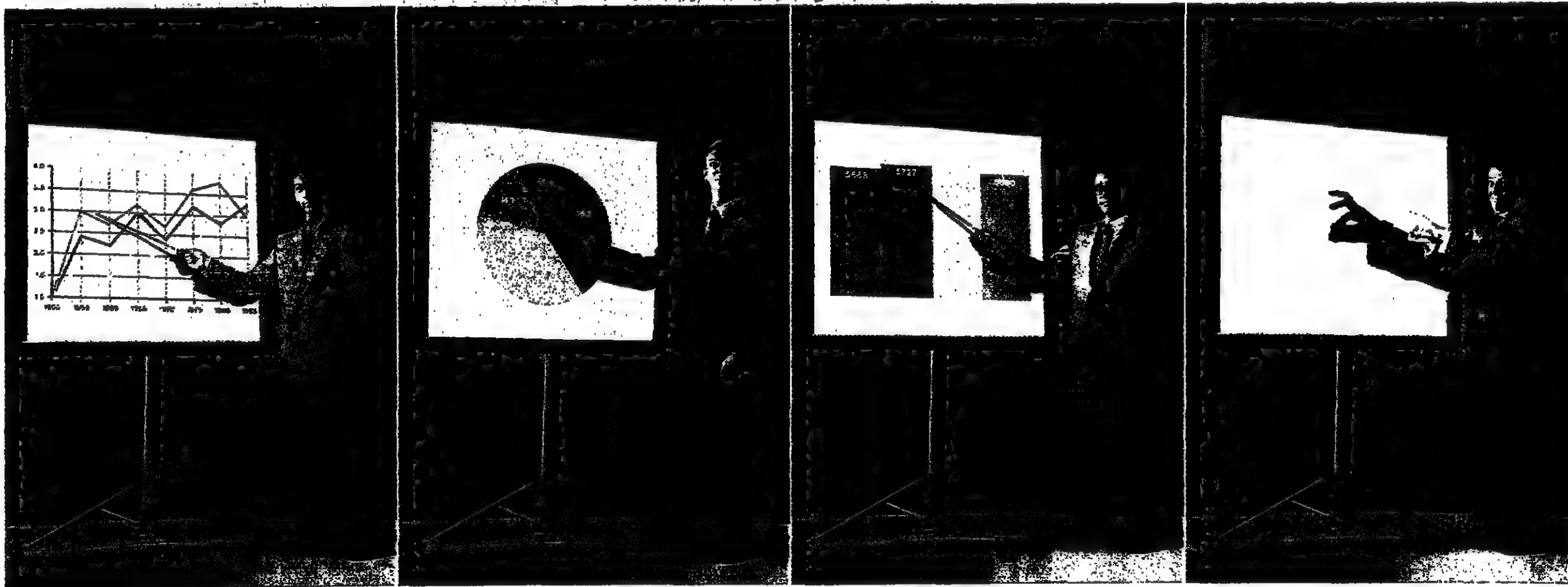
It is not, of course, just a question of competition. Some airlines have less freight capacity than Air France and would therefore be less keen to establish what may appear to be a competitive service. Airlines are hardly poverty-stricken, but some may feel

the investment they would have to make if they moved into door-to-door express would be greater than they could justify at present.

Express couriers need big, expensive sales teams as they are aiming their service at business and industry generally. Their target is any businessman that wants to send a package.

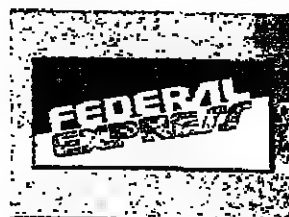
There is, though, a third option. This is the one adopted by British Airways, which, rather than getting into the door-to-door market, or "retail" end of the business, is opting to remain as a "wholesaler". BA is in the express market but plays a behind-the-scenes role. BA's Speedbird service is aimed at specialists, such as forwarders and express courier companies.

BA offers airport-to-door deliveries to 120 countries. The forwarder deals with the end customer, but BA provides the forwarder with a large part of that service. Such services are much cheaper to set up than the services that traditional retail companies offer. The front-end sales costs are low and the to-the-door delivery is done through agents. The wholesaler, therefore, does not need to have trucks and depots.



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# Gabriel's lucrative message

Driving ambition, a van and £8,000 are the secret behind running your own parcel delivery service, Rodney Hobson writes

Franchising has been the essence of the enterprise culture, as it spreads the risks and costs of business between franchisors and franchisees, turning a local operation into a nationwide business, while allowing individuals to be their own boss.

Richard Gabriel had the idea of franchising his business when he set up Interlink Express in Bristol ten years ago. Outlets would be independent, yet interdependent and maintain a set of standards. Advertising, marketing and billing customers would be done centrally, so the individual businesses were spared the risk of bad debts. The central office would also organise the trunk routes between individual franchisees, while every outlet provided its own vans and drivers. Central office paid them a commission based on the volume of traffic.

Dan Drew, the group finance director, says: "This industry lends itself to franchising. We started with 24 depots. Within 12 months, there were 60 and we could say it really was a national network."

The network has spread to 120

depots. Mr Drew says files are bulging with applicants begging for franchises, applicants who say they are willing to move to any part of the country. Opportunities are, however, few and far between.

A typical franchise will cost £8,000, plus the cost of a van, but because of the scheme's success, banks are usually willing to lend towards the cost of a franchise.

The concept was so successful that in 1987 an employee, Roger Baines, decided to set up his own overnight parcels delivery service on a franchise basis, called Amtrak, which now has 120 territories.

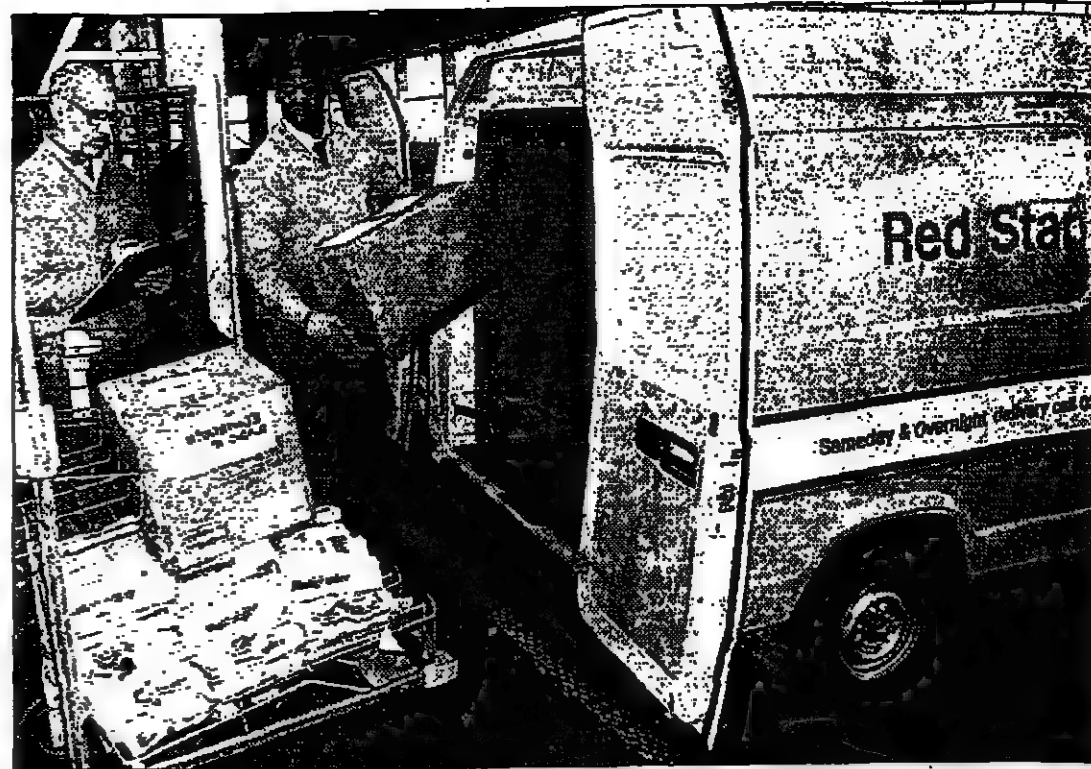
Despite the competition, Interlink progressed until it was taken over last month by an American company in a bid that valued Interlink at more than £50 million.

Mr Drew explains why the concept succeeded: "From Edinburgh to Exeter, the customer feels it is Mr Interlink who sees him. He feels he is dealing with a person who cares because that person owns the business."

"A franchisee will work longer hours and work twice as hard. It is a profitable combination."



Own boss John Fisher (above): "It is very demanding, but if you enjoy it, it does not feel like work" and (right) British Rail's Red Star parcel sorting office at Euston



## LIFE IN THE HOT SEAT

JOHN FISHER is an Interlink franchisee, working from Greenwich, southeast London. He says: "It is very demanding, but I do not regard that as a disadvantage. If you enjoy it, it does not feel like work."

Mr Fisher started his business three years ago this month with four drivers. He immediately realised he needed five and within four months had six.

He says: "Things happened very quickly. The potential of the area was part of the attraction."

He works Saturday mornings, and if he is a driver short, he still gets behind the wheel himself. "That happens more often than I would like, but this is an individual business that does not have a bottomless pit of money," he says. "In any case, it does not

hurt to show the drivers that the governor can do it."

It has not been progress all the way. Having built up to seven drivers, he had to lay off two and sell two vehicles this year during the recession. An office girl also had to go.

Now, as the approach of Christmas brings increasing business and there are tentative signs of an end to the recession, he has been able to employ seven drivers again.

Mr Fisher says the transition from being manager for somebody else to being manager of his own business was surprisingly difficult. "There is always somebody else to blame if there is a governor over you." He had to learn how to sort out problems and administer discipline.

Red Star's parcel-delivery service is among the best-known of its type, having been set up in 1963 as a very basic concept: the customer took a package to the station and arranged for somebody to collect it at the other end, Rodney Hobson writes.

That service still exists as an important part of the business and many customers still call at a station and specify the train on which they want the parcel to be carried, but it is now the most basic of a wider range.

Collecting and delivering door-to-door amounts to nearly half the custom, with a choice of delivery times. The slowest is noon next day, a service used mainly by the manufacturing industry. The top-of-the-range service is delivery within 15 minutes of a time specified by the sender.

Red Star is no longer purely a railway-based service. It uses air-

## How the train takes the strain

craft, vans and motorcycles, carrying a total of up to 6.5 million parcels a year.

Red Star claims to make the fastest deliveries within Britain. London to Edinburgh takes four hours. An aircraft reaches Scotland faster, but it cannot beat the time from city centre to city centre, and is likely to cost more. The shorter the journey, the greater the advantage of rail over air travel. Other carriers often use Red Star because of its speed.

The international side of the business has been developed since

1983, when Red Star Europe was launched. A service to the United States was added in 1987 and Red Star now operates to more than 100 countries.

Even in Europe, some parcels go by train, especially to France and Belgium. Most overseas services are, however, run in conjunction with a local service at the other end. For instance, Red Star has a reciprocal arrangement with Airborne Express in the US. Niche markets are sought overseas, an example being the service to Israel.

The opening of the Channel tunnel will be an extra boost for the European service. The aim is to have a same-day service between London, Paris and Brussels that will deliver faster than aircraft. There is also a proposal for an overnight parcel service to Brussels airport, under which parcels leave London at 10pm and feed into the international parcels hub in Europe.

## Computer keeps your parcels on right TRAC

Bar code technology is being used to ensure that customers can monitor their packages' progress all the way to delivery

The bar code, which has infiltrated every part of our lives from the supermarket checkout to the front page of *The Times*, has become vital to the express parcels business, Malcolm Brown writes.

The express companies have all developed tracking systems, based on bar code scanning, which enable the customer sending a parcel with the courier to keep tabs on its whereabouts.

Express customers choose their carrier on the basis of three criteria: price, speed and reliability. Of those, reliability is probably the most important. Prices tend to level out. Speed becomes less important if one is choosing between, say, a 12-hour and a 24-hour delivery, but reliability, particularly in the era of just-in-time manufacturing systems, is of the essence.

So, increasingly, customers want the reassurance of knowing their consignments have reached their destination on time. Their reputation as suppliers depends on it. So, of course, does that of the couriers.

"The real point," says Mr Christopher Kalle-Bishop, the commercial manager of the Post Office's Parcelforce, "is to ensure that any carrier does what he promises to do. That is a benefit to the customer."

If there is a delay — even express couriers cannot legislate against traffic jams on the M25 or fog-bound aircraft — tracking and tracing systems usually enable the customer to discover the reason for the hold-up and what the new delivery time will be.

Under most systems the client telephones a central customer services office, where a dedicated computer holds all the information on pick-up, transporting, delivery and delays.

One of the most advanced tracking systems, TRAC (Terminals for Red Star Account Customers), allows the customer to key directly into Red Star's central computer from a personal computer in his own office. The system, introduced last year and now used by more than 30 large customers, including the BBC, IBM, Siemens and BT, not only gives the customer direct access to the parcels computer, but also cuts out a great deal of the administration and paperwork.

First, it works out the best route for the parcel, in a combination of trains and vans that will get the parcel to its destination most efficiently. Then it prints a manifest and a bar-coded label. Because the customer is making contact electronically with Red Star every time he uses TRAC, the system does away with the need for consignment notes.



Called by the bar: TRAC gives constant updates

Once the parcel has been collected, bar code readers monitor its progress at key transfer points, such as railway stations.

One of the obvious advantages of an on-line system such as this is that if the user company gets a query from its customer, the company to which the parcel has been dispatched, it can produce answers straight away without having to make more telephone calls or search through paperwork.

Adam Harris, the managing director of a microcomputer manufacturer, Opus Technology, in Redhill, Surrey, which uses TRAC, has been able to use the system to his company's advantage. "We have had a number of occasions on which customers have complained to us that the machines have not got to them within the seven-day period when they place their order," he says. "We actually have got it to their warehouse, but internally it has not reached them."

Other express companies are now considering similar on-line systems for their biggest customers. Millions of pounds are being spent on ensuring that all available information on consignments gets back to the central computer as soon as possible. The link between the courier's

vehicle, which makes the final delivery, and the central computer is regarded as particularly important.

Parcelforce, for example, is investing more than £2 million in a system called Cabcom as a back-up for its time-guaranteed services.

As soon as a driver has delivered his consignment, the delivery details of time, consignment number, recipient's name and exact delivery location are entered into a hand-held terminal, which is plugged into a cellular phone in the cab. The information is transmitted immediately into the Parcelforce computer.

The sender of the parcel can then obtain confirmation of delivery by telephoning the company's enquiry centre. The Cabcom system is under test at 16 depots and should be in use at the remaining 60 depots by next spring.

Another of the market leaders, Securicor Omega Express, has found there is a demand from many customers for a comprehensive list of parcel delivery times and a record of who signed for them. The company is therefore using a scanner that reads more than 25,000 delivery manifests into an optical storage and retrieval system overnight. Customer companies have access to that information by calling a special telephone number and can get a hard copy by fax the same day.

"NO ONE ELSE CAN QUOTE SUCH A HIGH SUCCESS RATE FOR DELIVERING PARCELS OVERNIGHT." 99%

Over the past few weeks, since Elan came under new ownership, the success rate for delivering parcels overnight has averaged 99.6%. On occasion this figure has been recorded as high as 99.9%.

That's a staggering track record when you consider the thousands of parcels Elan carries every day.

All consignments are tended not by machine, but by hand. Elan believes there is no substitute for the human touch. So parcels not only arrive on time and at the right place, they arrive in the same condition they were despatched.

Elan's success is due to the quality of its

people. Every employee is trained to handle customers the same way parcels are handled. With the greatest of care.

Whenever possible, business is conducted through a single point of contact who, like all Elan's staff, is always referred to on a first name basis.

And in the unlikely event of a parcel being mis-routed, the slightest hint of a problem will have the Customer Service Centre making every effort to call the customer with an accurate solution before he's even thought he might need one.

Elan only operates a next-day service, so it really is the overnight specialist, delivering from company to company all over the UK, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands by three specified times.

Special requirements can also be arranged, from out of hours deliveries to placing Elan personnel and equipment on customers' premises. Elan will even act as consultants to plan a company's entire distribution operation.

Overnight success is but a phone call away.

If it all sounds too good to be true, you can put Elan's efficiency to the test right now. Just dial 0345 21 21 20 and a friendly voice will be helping you out within four seconds.

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MAX IN CHARGE OF FUN  
RIGHT TO CHOOSE A SCI

## NOTICEBOARD

Bristol's sights set on £100m

Japanese tips

Art of gold

Still waiting

New chief





● MAN IN CHARGE OF FUNDING 33  
● RIGHT TO CHOOSE A SCHOOL 33

# EDUCATION TIMES

MONDAY OCTOBER 21 1991

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## Why children must still be tested

How would Labour treat the key issue of pupil assessment? Jack Straw, the senior opposition spokesman on education, sets out the party's policy in detail

SALLY SOAMES



Testing time: "There is no single truth about testing, no Holy Grail" Jack Straw says. "Politicians must recognise they are learning too"

### Bristol's sights set on £100m

BRISTOL University is opening a £100 million fund-raising campaign so that it can take a third more students and double its research capacity. During the next ten years, the medical school, the law and engineering departments, and student facilities will be expanded. Last year Bristol found it had a deficit of more than £4 million. This year, however, the Universities Funding Council was sufficiently reassured to award it the second largest increase in funded places. In spite of this, the university does not expect to achieve its intended expansion without private funds.

### Japanese tips

SCHOOLS keen on introducing Japanese studies but daunted by such a difficult task were invited to a day-long seminar at Westminster School in central London last week. About 80 schools already run Japanese courses. Teachers and heads from nearly 50 schools attended the workshop called *Don't be Scared of Japanese* to listen to experts from Wales, where Japanese factories have opened, and from Sheffield and London Universities.

### Art of gold

TWO thousand years after the Romans discovered gold in west Wales, villagers are bracing themselves for a mini-Klondike. The Dolaucothi gold mine has become a history resource centre for schools, and has introduced a new primary curriculum that



links the history of Roman Britain with science, art and maths. The term-long project, which has been devised by the National Trust, the University of Wales and Gwent College, gives an insight into Roman social, military and technological life.

### Still waiting

INDEPENDENT schools may have to wait until well into 1992 for better times, says Noble Hanton, financial adviser to the independent schools' main organisation. He writes in *Prep School*, the magazine for parents and teachers, that schools must have a clear plan to cut costs. Fees will continue to rise, he says, but schools must look for other ways to raise income and cut costs.

The schools point out that costs published in the 1990-1 guidebook of the Independent Schools Information Service and used in *The Times* report on school fee rises last week referred to the previous year. In comparison with current figures, they indicated a rise well above the average of 10.6 per cent in day schools and 9.6 per cent in boarding schools. All rises were in line with the national figures.

### New chief



CHRIS Woodhead, above, has been appointed the chief executive of the National Curriculum Council to work alongside David Pask, a senior BP manager, the new part-time chairman. Mr Woodhead, a former English teacher, Oxford lecturer and education officer, has been the acting chief executive since Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, decided to split the two roles.

DAVID TYTLER

Testing and assessment are central to the learning process. Every time a teacher checks a piece of written work by a child and offers praise or a suggestion for improvement, testing and assessment are taking place.

Few issues, however, have generated more heat than light, with apparent adversaries often unwilling to agree on definitions, let alone on method.

Let me set out some principles that would inform Labour's approach to testing at a national level. The argument about testing comes down to whether, for what purpose, and to what extent, the testing should be subject to external regulation by Parliament and local authorities, or whether testing up to the age of 15 or so should be left to the judgment of individual teachers, schools and local education authorities.

I think that testing does have a role, from infants' school on. There is no serious argument about the principle of testing at 16 - these are known as public examinations.

Comprehensive and consistent records should be kept on the attainment of all children, and of

*'Few issues have generated more heat than light. People are unwilling to agree even on definitions'*

the progress they make from year to year. Parents and teachers need to know the level their children have reached, and whether there are strengths that should be developed, or weaknesses identified and remedied.

Some argue that the assessment that would form the basis of these records could be done in an entirely informal way by class teachers alone.

In a *Panorama* report about standard assessment tests (Sats), one primary teacher encapsulated this view by saying: "We know what our children need. We have been trained to assess them in our college days, and we have done it every day of our lives since we have been teachers."

For this teacher, and many like her, the "Sats saga" of the past three years has seemed, with some justification, like an assault on her professional integrity and exper-

tise. Ministers have done themselves no favours in terms of teacher confidence by constantly implying that they do not trust teachers.

For me, however, the case for some externally regulated testing rests not on any issue of teacher competence, but on the quite separate questions of consistency, and of teacher expectation.

If "standards of education" are

to have meaning beyond political rhetoric, the term must convey an idea literally of levels of attainment. Those levels must be laid down externally to the school and be comparable across the country.

Some say that though the curriculum and levels of attainment may be laid down nationally, as they are now, the assessment of children, within the national curriculum, should be left entirely to

individual schools and teachers. However, the judgment about what level a child has reached is itself, in almost every area, one requiring professional skill. It is necessary that these judgments should be checked externally for the same reasons that assessed course work in GCSE is moderated - to help to maintain a consistent standard.

Low expectation by teachers of pupils in inner-city schools, those

from ethnic minorities and of girls, is a serious problem. External moderation may help to raise these expectations.

The second argument for externally regulated testing is so that there is a flow of data to measure schools' effectiveness. Unquestionably, parents should be told about their child's progress, and as a matter of open government, information about a school should be

in the public domain. I am, however, opposed to the dangerous league-table mentality of current ministers.

By themselves, league tables of crude test and examination results may not only give a wholly misleading indication of how good or bad a school may be, but they may also imply that the success of one school has to be built on the failure or relegation of another.

What we want to see is schools' effectiveness measured - or to use a fashionable market analogy, the "education value added", which a school creates. The paradox of this approach is that it requires information on the attainment of the children on entry to a school, which can come only from relatively objective test and assessment procedures.

Only with this kind of information can we begin to solve one of the central problems of English education, the variation in the performance of otherwise similar schools. If we do not have this information, schools in inner-city areas may be unfairly pilloried by a crude league table, while an under-performing school in a prosperous area may escape attention.

*'Between now and the general election we shall continue our dialogue with teachers and parents'*

We have not made final decisions on how, within these principles, testing would operate under a Labour government. We shall use the period between now and the general election to continue dialogue with teachers' and parents' organisations.

If the government had done the same, it might have avoided some embarrassing reversals in this area. The proposals from the National Association of Head Teachers for greater teacher assessment but with externally validated moderation, and with the facility to allow brighter children to move at their own pace, merit careful consideration.

There is no single truth about testing, no Holy Grail. Politicians have to recognise that they are involved in a learning experience too, and should have been taught some humility by the past three years' experience.

## A housing storm among the spires

Oxford's spires and quads were more of a nightmare than a dream for Rose Johnstone. After one week the visiting professor of biochemistry from McGill University, Montreal, fled back to Canada vowing never to return.

The problem was in the accommodation. Professor Johnstone had expected to forgo some luxuries when she came to Britain to carry on her research into the function of human blood but she had not expected to be given a "red bordello".

She vented her disappointment in *Oxford Magazine*, the university's organ for debating academic and other issues: "Was it too much to expect a WC shared by fewer than four others? A shower shared by fewer than seven others? A carpet on a floor without the grubby stains of years of use? A few coasters? A lamp to read by? The possibility to boil a cup of water? Clearly, yes! None of the above were available."

The beautiful marble fireplace boasted an electric heater and the marble had accumulated several decades of grime. The main and only ceiling light was muted by a decorative shade - in deep red - which when lit provided a warm bordello-like glow but not much light for reading.

Professor Johnstone accused Oxford of having accommodation that failed to meet even 19th-century standards. Oxford students and faculties disagree. Polly Williams has a work, virgin olive oil, a kettle and rugs scattered around her room. She is a third-year undergraduate at St Hugh's and lives in college accommodation on the Banbury Road, a ten-minute cycle ride from the Bodleian library.

"When I first saw my room it had a large brown patch on the ceiling and a bare light bulb, and there was a really dodgy stain on the carpet," she says. "Without all the trappings it looked fairly grim but once you have filled it up with all your clutter and disguised the stains with drapes, it's

Students reply to the visiting professor who complained about her 'bordello' room

fine." There are 25 students in the house. "We have one telephone, which nobody ever answers, four loos, three showers and two bathrooms," she says. "You might have to wait a few minutes but there are not queues all round the house every morning."

If students want to use an oven they have to go to the main building across the road as the house has only grills and hotplates. Some of the students are not too fastidious about the two refrigerators but Miss Williams says she has not come across any escaping vegetables yet. "I suppose foreign students might balk at the spartan nature of it all but I do not know anybody who



Banister: "lucky Oxford"

does not really like their own room. Most students prefer living in college. Although it means you do not have a sitting room or proper kitchen, it is cheaper, you do not have to worry about heating and we have a scout to vacuum and empty the bins."

Rents in Oxford are among the highest in Britain and colleges feel pressed to find accommodation for as many students as possible. One academic says it is not uncommon for resident professors to be offered no room at

all, and visiting professors are considered to be even less urgent cases.

Bruno Paulson, a post-graduate research student in politics at Nuffield College, says: "There is a distinct limit to the number of rooms available and the competition is enormous. If students had to give up their rooms to visiting professors who were there for only a few weeks there would be carnage."

All the colleges are making enormous efforts to improve and extend their accommodation, says Sir Roger Banister, Master of Pembroke College, since 1985. Pembroke has just opened a new building for 100 undergraduates and is putting up more central accommodation for postgraduates in Banister Street. Sir Roger says: "Oxford is lucky in that we do have extensive accommodation. Most of our students can live in college for at least two of their years and can have single rooms unlike some other universities. But many of the colleges have 16th-century buildings that just cannot be compared to America or Canada. It is not that easy to make substantial improvements when walls are a metre thick."

Mr Paulson spent his summer teaching American students. He says: "The Americans kids were horrified that there were no showers but if you want to live in a traditional building, you have to put up with the plumbing system. You do not come to Oxford for the mod cons, you come for the atmosphere."

Adam Roberts, Montague Burton professor of international relations at Balliol College, says: "I am singularly unfussy about my surroundings. I have stayed in the worst student accommodation in Czechoslovakia, where it was impossible to get breakfast. One just has to get accustomed to different places."

He feels there are other more pressing issues for visiting academics, such as what to do with your spouse and securing a telephone.

ALICE THOMSON

## EDUCATION

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### Leicester University

School of Biological Sciences  
Departments of Botany and Zoology

### CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a Chair of Environmental Biology to be held as a joint appointment in the Departments of Botany and Zoology. The appointee will be expected to direct the development of the teaching programme in environmental biology and ecology and to conduct research in an appropriate field. It is expected that the Chair holder will take a normal share of undergraduate teaching, but will initially be free of major administrative responsibilities. Candidates should be willing to interact productively with existing research groups, and the successful candidate will be expected to provide academic leadership to the Environmental Biology Group which already exists in the School. The group consists of those members of the School of Biological Sciences with teaching and/or research interests in ecology or environmental biology. It is expected also that the work in Environmental Biology will relate to other cognate disciplines throughout the University. The field of scholarship of the appointee is not restricted, but it is hoped that the Chair will bring field-based or theoretical expertise to strengthen and extend current activities.

Salary will be negotiated within the Professorial Range, current minimum £28,384 p.a. Further particulars may be obtained from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH. Tel: (0533) 522439. UK candidates should submit sixteen copies of their application. (Overseas candidates may submit one copy). The University FAX number is (0533) 522266.

Closing date for applications: 16 December 1991.

### PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE

Applications are invited from persons with wide research interests in any aspect of medicine and wide experience of teaching, at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Following the death of Professor R. Wright and the retirement of Professor J.B.L. Howell, an academic unit in Medicine has been formed which combines existing groups in respiratory medicine, gastroenterology and endocrinology.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Director of Personnel Services, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO9 5NH, England, telephone (0703) 593353 to whom applications (10 copies from UK applicants, 1 from overseas applicants) including a full curriculum vitae and details of three referees should be sent by 2 December 1991. Please quote reference P/70/T.

Working for Equal Opportunities

University of Southampton

### SCHOLARSHIPS

### AIGLON COLLEGE SWITZERLAND SCHOLARSHIPS

The British international (HMC) boarding school in the French Swiss Alps for 280 boys and girls invites applications from candidates with excellent academic credentials for scholarships to be awarded in September 1992 for Junior (11-12 years), Middle School (13-14 years) and Sixth form entry.

One scholarship will be awarded to a boy or girl who as well as meeting the school's academic requirements shows particular promise in skiing.

For details write to:

Head of Admissions  
Aiglon College, Dept. E  
1885 Chaux-de-Villars, Switzerland  
Tel: 41 25 35 27 21 Fax: 41 25 35 28 11  
Telex 456211 ACOL CH

### The Queen's University of Belfast LECTURESHIP IN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

This post is available from 1 April 1992 or such other date as may be agreed, to complement the teaching and research interests of the department.

Applicants must hold a good first degree or a postgraduate qualification in social anthropology, and have fieldwork experience. A PhD or a PhD nearing completion, teaching experience and/or a record of publication is desirable.

The University is committed to selection on merit, but as there is an under-representation of women in academic posts, applications from women are particularly welcome.

Salary scale: Lecturer Grade A: £12,860 - £17,827 (minimum at age 27 or over: £14,369) or for suitably qualified applicants, Grade B: £18,572 - £23,739 per annum, with eligibility for USS. Assistance with relocation is appropriate.

Further particulars (please quote ref 91/7) are available from the Personnel Officer, The Queen's University of Belfast, BT7 1NN, Northern Ireland (telephone (0232) 245133 ext 3044 or FAX (0232) 324994). Closing date: 22 November 1991.























# Promising Kajaani can crown Cole's Nottingham double

PAUL Cole has three runners in each division of the Woodborough Maiden Guaranteed Sweepstakes at Nottingham today and can win both with Grand Master (2.30) and Kajaani (3.30).

Two years ago the Whatcombe-trained Scurge, the subsequent St Leger winner, to the Midlands track for a division of this race. On that occasion he was beaten by Blue Stag, who also turned out to be a good three-year-old.

Scurge's half-brother, Kajaani, now attempts to go one better than his illustrious relative and will be joined in the field for the second division by Last Conquest and National Emblem.

Kajaani, third to the useful Berton in his only race at Cheltenham, is preferred to his stable companions and can also cope with recent Warwick second Morston.

Grand Master can benefit from a drop in class by winning the first division. He was thrown in at the deep end last time when a well-beaten fifth in the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot but before that had finished a credible second to Zinsad in the Haynes, Hanson and Clark Stakes at Newbury.

Cole also fields Public Appeal and Yenoora but a greater threat may be Castillet. Steve Causton has been hoping that his overnight flight from Toronto, where he was in action yesterday, will be justified by a winning ride on Castillet, but I still feel that Grand Master

Noble Pet, Palm Lagoon and Mahonne have also shown sufficient promise to suggest they are capable of winning a race of this nature but neither Nor's last run at Goodwood, where she was caught virtually on the line by Ring Cycle, constitutes the best form.

The earlier division may go to Cocco Island, who has been competing on an altogether higher plane.

With the Levy Board Maiden Stakes also divided, today's programme on the east Kent track has swollen to eight races. Having finished second in all his three races so far, Kayvee certainly deserves to win the second division.

However, having squandered those chances, it may be better now to side with Michael Stoute's Fit On Time, who will be all the better for his introductory run behind Dancing Boy at Nottingham.

Long Furlongs, who has taken on a new lease of life since joining Reg Akehurst's Epsom yard, can keep up the good work in the Handicapped Claiming Stakes.

I see Ice, beaten only a head by Munday Dean in a handicap over today's course and distance 13 days ago, can go one better in the Biddenden Claiming Stakes.

**Blinkered first time**  
NOTTINGHAM: 2.00 Alford, 2.30 Jack Banton, Public Appeal, 3.00 Castillet, 4.00 Yenoora, 4.30 Kajaani, 5.00 Grand Master, 5.30 Morston, 6.00 National Emblem, 6.30 Last Conquest, 7.00 Blue Stag, 7.30 Berton, 8.00 Kajaani, 8.30 Grand Master, 9.00 Morston, 9.30 National Emblem, 10.00 Last Conquest, 10.30 Blue Stag, 11.00 Berton, 11.30 Kajaani, 12.00 Grand Master, 12.30 Morston, 13.00 National Emblem, 13.30 Last Conquest, 14.00 Blue Stag, 14.30 Berton, 15.00 Kajaani, 15.30 Grand Master, 16.00 Morston, 16.30 National Emblem, 17.00 Last Conquest, 17.30 Blue Stag, 18.00 Berton, 18.30 Kajaani, 19.00 Grand Master, 19.30 Morston, 20.00 National Emblem, 20.30 Last Conquest, 21.00 Blue Stag, 21.30 Berton, 22.00 Kajaani, 22.30 Grand Master, 23.00 Morston, 23.30 National Emblem, 24.00 Last Conquest, 24.30 Blue Stag, 25.00 Berton, 25.30 Kajaani, 26.00 Grand Master, 26.30 Morston, 27.00 National Emblem, 27.30 Last Conquest, 28.00 Blue Stag, 28.30 Berton, 29.00 Kajaani, 29.30 Grand Master, 30.00 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563.00 Last Conquest, 563.30 Blue Stag, 564.00 Berton, 564.30 Kajaani, 565.00 Grand Master, 565.30 Morston, 566.00 National Emblem, 566.30 Last Conquest, 567.00 Blue Stag, 567.30 Berton, 568.00 Kajaani, 568.30 Grand Master, 569.00 Morston, 569.30 National Emblem, 570.00 Last Conquest, 570.30 Blue Stag,



# Rocastle stakes claim for England

**MANCHESTER UNITED:** P. Schmechel; C. Blackmore, D. Ince, S. Bruce, N. Webb (sub); A. Kanchelskis, G. Pallister, B. Robson, P. Ince, B. McClair, M. Hughes, R. Gigg.

**ARSENAL:** D. Seaman; L. Dixon, N. Winterburn, P. Davis, C. Poles, A. Adams, D. Rocastle, I. Wright, A. Smith, P. Marsden, K. Campbell.

**Referee:** D. Holtbrook.



**Tenacity and acceleration:** Rocastle, right, shows his qualities against Hughes

By PETER BALL

Cyrille Regis and Tony Daley scored the goals as *Aston Villa* chalked up a notable success at Goodison Park, but McGrath's name dominated the post-match inquests. "He was absolutely unbelievable," Howard Kendall said. Critics who doubt Graham Taylor's judgement of players will recall that it was Taylor who rescued McGrath's career when Manchester United wanted him to retire a little over two years ago.

## By KETH BLACKMORE

**BLACKBURN:** S. McIlhenny; M. Davies (sub: P. Stoneham); A. Wright; P. Groves; G. Briggs; J. Gore; R. Ross; P. Horner; D. Sander; T. Sinclair (sub: M. Taylor); D. Eyles.

## By IAN ROSS

**HOWARD** Wilkinson, the Leeds United manager, must be perplexed by the fact that his team is only occasionally mentioned when the destiny of this season's League championship is raised.

This is something of a mystery. A quarter of the season has already elapsed and Leeds continue to make solid progress. The quality of their performance, against an admittedly poor Notts County team, served to further discredit the suggestion that the title is sure to be the property of either Manchester United or Liverpool.

On their return to the first division last season, Leeds won plaudits not only for the qualified success they achieved but also for the fluidity and purposeful style of their football. It is now a matter of time before the fact that few sides will move them

By RUSSELL K. HANCOCK

MARK Bright and Ian Wright formed the perfect partnership at Selhurst Park. Plenty of pace and a gift for getting into snappy positions for the headline writers – "Bright sparks Palace", "Palace gets it Wright" etc.

Marco Gabbiadini, a £1.8 million investment from Sunderland, will never please the punters by name alone. Yet he has been a real star, showing signs of a fruitful coalition in the wake of Wright's £2.5 million move to Arsenal.

Gabbiadini lacks Wright's pure ability and agility. His chunky frame is a legacy from a debilitating groin injury at Arsenal, but when the Italian scores fresh goals, he relies more on instinct and fleetness of thought.

His first League goal for Palace, which decided a night

Coventry's equaliser came courtesy of Ashby's vigilance, in the 69th minute. He spotted Young's elbow in close proximity to Greenman's head and Gynn converted the penalty.

**Gabbriellini** — "Goulden Gabbli" perhaps, to the tabloids — then settled it.

**COVENTRY CITY:** S Ogrtovic; B Barrows, C Greenman, S Robson, A Pearce, P Atherton (sub: D Emerson), L McGrath, M Gynn, R Rosario, K Gallacher, P Ndlovu (sub: P Furlong).

**CRYSTAL PALACE:** N Muntari; G South-

**Referees:** G Ashby.

## WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

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☐ Compiled by Julian Desborough







